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Benfica keep European Cup

PORTUGUESE WELL WORTH SECOND SUCCESSIVE VICTORY

EXCLUSIVE REPORT by ERIC BATTY

WITH the Coppa Europa once more installed in the place of honour it has occupied for the past twelve months in the Estadio da Luz, Benfica's only problem is to find a new trainer to replace the retiring Bela Guttmann. For the losers the future looks bleak, and perhaps by the time this appears in print the exodus will have begun.

This really is unlikely, for Real have Spanish Cup semi-final dates after the World Cup has been settled and only this season's registered staff are eligible. Even so the deals will have been quietly made, awaiting only the appropriate moment for completion. That they need to prune their staff cannot now be denied yet strangely enough the man that most people thought would be on the move was Puskas, who could certainly not be blamed for the failure in Amsterdam.

For any man to score a superb hat trick in the space of twenty minutes and then find himself in the losing team must be heartbreaking, but perhaps for Puskas the blow was softened by his personal performance. After all, scoring goals is his role in the Madrid system. He kept his end up, and the reasons for the flop lie further back.

In fact the wall that Real usually erect around their penalty area looked distinctly shaky and behind them the normally confident Araquistain was frequently left flat-footed. He must take the major share of the blame for the goal that began Benfica's comeback early on. For he spent almost a full minute crouching by the far post apparently unable to make up his mind whether the line of defenders were in fact covering the near post. When the kick was taken Araquistain was scrambling across to the far side of goal, and when the ball rebounded from the post he knew nothing about it. Aguas had an easy job to push home the rebound, and though he missed an equally simple chance against England at Wembley he made no mistake this time!

Araquistain might also have to accept a large share of the responsibility for the goals scored by former outside-left Cavem, and final equaliser lashed home by Coluna. Both shots were really flying, but from the twenty-five yard mark a 'keeper of Araquistain's class should have reached them. There is only one possible excuse—the light was not as good as it might have been—but in fairness it was the same for Costa Pereira and he lived up to his reputation. Pereira didn't know much about one shot from Di Stefano that hit his leg but he had come out well, and while he could not have prevented Tejada's header from going in had it dropped another three inches lower he had the luck that usually falls to players in form.

For me the most spectacular goal of the eight was the second, which flew from the outside of that fabulous left foot of Ferenc Puskas. Not only did the ball "come back" at least a yard, it bounced just short of Pereira! Until early in the second half Real supporters must have been only slightly perturbed at their team's inability to hold what could have been a match winning three goal lead, but at the psychological moment when they needed to produce just a little extra effort, they lost their right-back who limped out of a tackle and never ran again. This may have been the turning point in the match for from then on Real were chasing an equaliser with only ten fit men and a reshuffled team, while Benfica prodded by their coach from the sidelines wasted every second they could and whenever possible pushed the ball around between themselves.

It was a good match—though not as good as many observers seemed to think. Exciting, always interesting, and surrounded by the atmosphere that such an important occasion should have—it lacked the finesse, the superb skill demonstrated by Real in the Eintracht epic at Hampden.

Benfica were worthy winners on the day, fully deserving to retain the trophy for another twelve months—but never at any time did they ever rise to the peaks of Real Madrid, vintage 1960!

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

World Soccer

1 LUDGATE CIRCUS BUILDINGS, LUDGATE CIRCUS
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This month's front cover . . .

Juventus and Internationale drew 2-2 in an Italian First Division match and the man prominently placed in this particular duel is Nicole of Juventus. Neither club were able to wrest the championship for their own sake and had to be content to watch Milan take the prize.

what to look for in next month's edition

The July edition will coincide with the emergence of the winners of the World Cup in Chile. But though this will take up most of the soccer interest for readers, WORLD SOCCER will maintain its complete coverage of all aspects of the game. The usual contributions will be forthcoming from our correspondents including Roger Macdonald, Eric Batty, Gordon Jeffery and Jerry Weinstein.

JUNE WORLD SOCCER 1962
VOL. 2 No. 9

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Antwerp	28	37
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F.C. Liege	28	33
La Gantoise	28	27

ENGLAND (Final)

	Pld.	Pts.
Ipswich	42	56
Burnley	42	53
Tottenham	42	52
Everton	42	51
Sheffield Utd.	42	57
Sheffield Wed.	42	46

FRANCE

	Pld.	Pts.
Reims	36	46
Nimes	35	45
Racing, Paris	35	42
Sedan	35	41
Monaco	35	41
Nancy	35	39

HOLLAND

	Pld.	Pts.
Feijenoord	30	48
P.S.V.	30	40
Blau-wit	30	39
Ajax	30	38
N.A.C.	30	33
M.Y.V.	30	32

HUNGARY (Final)

	Pld.	Pts.
Vasas	26	38
Ujpest Dozsa	26	36
Ferencvaros	26	33
Tatabanya	26	31
M.T.K.	26	28
Doreg	26	27

ITALY (Final)

	Pld.	Pts.
Milan	34	53
Inter-Milan	34	48
Fiorentina	34	46
Bologna	34	45
Roma	34	44
Atalanta	34	48

PORTUGAL

	Pld.	Pts.
Sporting	23	37
Porto	23	37
Benfica	23	33
C.U.F.	23	29
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	Pld.	Pts.
Dundee	34	54
Rangers	34	51
Celtic	34	46
Dunfermline	34	43
Kilmarnock	34	42
Hearts	34	38

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	Pld.	Pts.
Real Madrid	30	43
Barcelona	30	40
Atletico Madrid	30	36
Zaragoza	30	35
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	Pld.	Pts.
Tasmania	27	44
Hertha BSC	27	43
Tennis Borussia	27	32
Spandauer S.V.	27	26
Berliner SV 92	27	25
BFC Sudring	27	25

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	Pld.	Pts.
Hamburg SV	30	50
Werder Bremen	30	44
VFV Hildesheim	30	42
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Holstein Kiel	30	37
Eintr. Braunschweig	30	36

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Vojvodina	21	25
Red Star	21	24
Dynamo	21	23
Hajduk	21	23
Sarajevo	21	22

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED RESULTS SECTION

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

England Amateur (2) 3 (Lawrence 2, Vernon o.g.)
Scotland Amateur (2) 4 (Hopper 2, Whitelaw, Cromar)

England: M. J. Pinner (Hendon); J. Martin (Wimbledon), J. Harris (Enfield); R. Andrey (Wimbledon), R. Law (Wimbledon), C. Townsend (Wealdstone); L. G. Brown (Wimbledon), R. Agar (Tooting), T. Lawrence (Enfield), H. M. G. Lindsay (Kingstonian), W. Broomfield (West Auckland).

Scotland: J. Prentice (Irvine Meadow); R. L. Cromar (Queen's Park), J. Vernon (Jordanhill); J. Coles (Queen's Park), W. Neil (Queen's Park), D. A. Grant (Queen's Park); J. Neeson (Dumbarton), N. C. Hopper (Queen's Park), P. Buchanan (Queen's Park), G. Whitelaw (Partick), D. A. Houston (Queen's Park).

MONDAY, MARCH 19

Irish League (3) 6
Italian League (0) 2

Irish League: Irvine (Linfield); Gilliland (Linfield), Crothers (Glentoran); Cush (Portadown), Twentyman (Ballymena), Peacock (Coleraine); Humphries (Ards), Johnston (Glentoran), Coyle (Coleraine), Dickson (Linfield), Braithwaite (Linfield).

Italian League: Ferrari; Villa, Vitali; Cistano, Peretta, Cioni; Colombo, Joan, Cavicchia, Luna, Brenna.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Football League (1) 3 (Hunt 2, Haynes)
Scottish League (2) 4 (Brand, Wilson 3)

Football League: Springett (Sheffield Wed.); Armfield (Blackpool), Wilson (Huddersfield); Miller (Burnley), Swan (Sheffield Wed.), Flowers (Wolves); Jackson (West Bromwich), Hunt (Liverpool), Crawford (Ipswich), Haynes (Fulham), Charlton (Manchester Utd.).

Scottish League: Connachan (Dunfermline); Hamilton (Dundee), Caldow (Rangers); Crerand (Celtic), McNeill (Celtic), Fraser (Dundee Utd.); Scott (Rangers), Quinn (Motherwell), Millar (Rangers), Brand (Rangers), Wilson (Rangers).

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

England Under-23 (1) 4 (Hill F., Byrne 2, Paine)
Turkey Under-23 (0) 1 (Ogun)

England: Bonetti (Chelsea); Kirkup (West Ham), Jones (Middlesbrough); Moore (West Ham), Hinton (Charlton), Deakin (Aston Villa); S. Hill (Blackpool) (sub.—Paine, Southampton), Hill (F.) (Bolton), Byrne (West Ham), Burnside (West Bromwich), Harrison (Chelsea).

Turkey: Ozcan (Arkoc); Erkan, Ozcan (Korsov); Necati, Sureyya, Tugay; Yilmaz, Talat, Ogun, Nevzat, Aydin.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Belgium (1) 3 (Jurion pen., Vandenberg 2)
Holland (1) 1 (Vanderlinden)

Belgium: Nicolay; Bare, Raskin; Hanon, Stomne, Verbiest; Jurion, Van Hirst, Claessen, Vandenburg, Paesches.

Holland: Lagarde; Wiersma, Kuys; Muller, Pronk, Brusselers; Swart, Groot (H.), Vanderlinden, Prins, Petersen.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

England (2) 3 (Crawford, Flowers pen., Hunt)
Austria (0) 1 (Busek)

England: Springett; Armfield, Wilson; Anderson, Swan, Flowers; Connelly, Hunt, Crawford, Haynes, Charlton.

Austria: Fraydl; Trubrig, Hasenkopf; Oslansky, Stotz, Koller; Knoll, Hof, Busek, Fiala (sub.—Flogl), Rafreider.

Inter-League

Irish League (1) 3 (Gorman 2, Johnston)
League of Ireland (0) 1 (Whelan)

Irish League: Irvine (Linfield); Gilliland (Linfield), Crothers (Glentoran); Cush (Portadown), Twentyman (Ballymena), Peacock (Coleraine); Humphries (Ards), Johnston (Glentoran), Gorman (Portadown), Dickson (Linfield), Braithwaite (Linfield).

League of Ireland: Lowry (St. Patrick's); Carroll (Shelbourne), Courtney (Shamrock Rovers); Nolan (Shamrock Rovers), Strahan (Shelbourne), P. McCarthy (Cork Celtic); O'Donovan (Cork Celtic), Whelan (St. Patrick's), Barber (Shelbourne), Hamilton (Shamrock Rovers), Eglington (Cork Hibs.).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Wales (2) 4 (Charles M. 4)
Ireland (0) 0

Wales: Kelsey (Arsenal); S. Williams (West Bromwich), Hopkins (Tottenham); Lucas (Leyton O.), England (Blackburn), Hennessey (Birmingham); L. Allchurch (Sheffield United), Woosnam (West Ham), M. Charles (Cardiff), Vernon (Everton), Jones (Tottenham).

Ireland: Briggs (Manchester U.); Keith (Newcastle), Cunningham (Dunfermline); Blanchflower (Tottenham), Neill (Arsenal), Nicholson (Manchester U.); Humphries (Ards), Johnston (Glenavon), O'Neill (Sunderland), McLaughlin (Shrewsbury), Braithwaite (Linfield).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

France (1) 1 (De Bourgoing)
Poland (2) 3 (Pohl, Lentner, Brychczy)

France: Bernard; Wendling, Rudzik; Herbin, Cornu, Ferrier; De Bourgoing, Kora (Guillas), Kopa, Theo, Rambert.

Poland: Kornek; Szczepanski, Woziak; Kowalski, Oslizio, Grzegorczyk; Faber, Brychczy, Gadja, Pohl, Lentner.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Eire (0) 2 (Cantwell, Tuohy)
Austria (1) 3 (Buzek, Flogl, Knoll)

Eire: Kelly; Dunne, Traynor; Saward, Hurley, Meagan; Hale, Giles, Cantwell, Curtis, Tuohy.

Austria: Fraydl; Windisch, Scrobl; Puschnik, Stotz, Koller; Hirnschrodt, Hof, Buzek, Knoll, Flogl.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Scotland (1) 2 (Wilson, Caldow pen.)
England (0) 0

Scotland: Brown (Tottenham); Hamilton (Dundee), Caldow (Rangers); Crerand (Celtic), McNeill (Celtic), Baxter (Rangers); Scott (Rangers), White (Tottenham), St. John (Liverpool), Law (Torino), Wilson (Rangers).

England: Springett (Sheffield Wed.); Armfield (Blackpool), Wilson (Huddersfield); Anderson (Sunderland), Swan (Sheffield Wed.), Flowers (Wolves); Douglas (Blackburn), Greaves (Tottenham), Smith (Tottenham), Haynes (Fulham), Charlton (Manchester Utd.)

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Uruguayan prospects dim after tour

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

THE threatened glut of Full International matches has caught up with me after the months of calm on the Soccer Front and I am faced with a lengthy list of twenty-one matches upon which to hold our regular inquest. In the background—very nearly in the *foreground* now—is the World Cup and thoughts of that condition the findings and dictate the order of priorities. Pride of match I am giving to the seven matches that have brought together World Cup contenders—four of them matches played in Europe by Uruguay; next come the nine matches in which one of the countries concerned is a World Cup finalist whilst the other is not; finally, for such attention as space allows, come the five matches with no direct relevance to the 1962 World Cup.

March 28:	Argentina ...	1	Mexico	0
April 1:	Colombia ...	0	Mexico	1
,, 4:	Colombia ...	2	Mexico	2
,, 11:	West Germany	3	Uruguay	0
,, 18:	Hungary	1	Uruguay	1
,, 22:	Czechoslovakia	3	Uruguay	1
,, 27:	U.S.S.R. ...	5	Uruguay	0

After their somewhat disappointing draw against Uruguay in Montevideo, the Argentinians were expected to return to something more like their normal play at home to Mexico. In fact they scraped a win only by virtue of an own goal conceded by Mexico's right-back, Arturo Chaires, when he got in the way of a cross from Corbatta to Artime.

Despite the forceful play of Rattin and Sainz the Argentinians seldom seemed likely to penetrate the customary packed Mexican defence—incidentally although Rattin was nominally the centre-half, it was usually left-half Capp who played policeman in the centre of the field.

The Mexicans in their rare attacking moments were best served by their wingers, Del Aguila and Diaz, and centre-forward Guillermo Ortiz. They have since paid a brief visit to Colombia to play a couple of matches against their fellow World Cup "outsiders"—the results of which were very much as one would have expected except that some of the players must have suffered a rush of blood to the head at the, for them, unexpected experience of sharing four goals in an International match.

Argentina incidentally had a "B" team match against the Second Division club, Tigre, on the same day as the Mexican game, and duly won it by six goals to two. Tigre fought hard—to the extent that one of their players was sent off—but neither this match, nor the Full Internationals against Uruguay and Mexico have revealed much of Argentina's prospects.

Uruguay's hopes most certainly have been diminished by their three weeks' experience in Europe. The tour itself was the subject of considerable discussion in Montevideo and three clubs, Nacional, Racing and Danubio, voted against it. Since Penarol, the national champions, had recently made their own club tour of Europe they were scarcely in a position to join the opposition although they might have shared the feeling that there was little to be gained from the trip. The majority however did support the Association Uruguaya de Futbol in their view that gaining experience of European styles of play would assist their players for the matches in Chile.

Club tours are the order of the day in many countries now even though most thoughts lie towards Chile. Bolton Wanderers have been playing in Greece and in their first match lost 4-1 to AEK Athens. Here the Greek goalkeeper Vernezis fails to prevent Freddie Hill from scoring in this particular game. Bolton then went on to defeat Olympiacos 2-1 and draw 1-1 with Panathinaikos. (Planet 1.)

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference.

by GORDON JEFFERY

Like all ruling bodies they are an easy target when things turn out badly and, whatever extenuating circumstances might be pleaded, it may be that the feeling of inferiority some at least of their players must now be experiencing will far outweigh in consequence any tactical benefits picked up during the matches themselves.

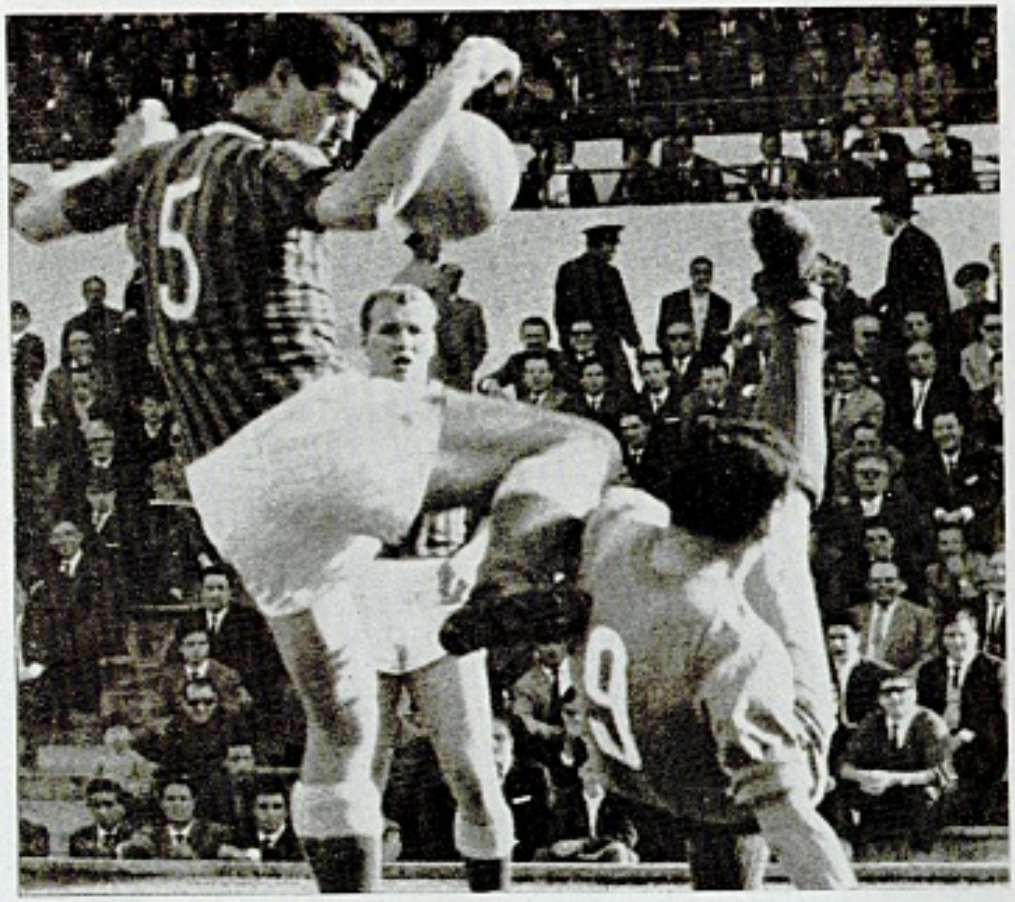
That the tour itself began with a defeat in Hamburg against West Germany was no surprise, and when Hungary were held to a draw in Budapest that seemed to confirm that the first match defeat was the fairly common result of a team from one hemisphere finding it difficult to quickly acclimatise themselves. The subsequent defeats by Czechoslovakia (themselves earlier beaten by Sweden) and by the Soviet Union made it plain that the fault was not in the European conditions but in their players that Uruguay were underlings.

There are a few factors that suggest the need to accept some of the results with a pinch of salt. Players like Penarol's thirty-four-year-old captain, William Martinez (with fifty-four appearances to his credit), Domingo Perez, Mario Bergera and Emilio Alvarez have been missing from most of the line-ups and from the frequent substitutions—these have been particularly commonplace in the forward line about which Juan Corazzo seems to be no more pleased than when he left Montevideo.

But, on paper at any rate, Uruguay have fielded strong sides with, however, only for the space of nine minutes (against Hungary) ever being in a winning position in the 360 minutes of play against fellow World Cup competitors. Nor were their opponents without their experiments.

West Germany, for example, in the opening match welcomed back that splendid wing-half, Horst Szymaniak, from his Italian club, Catania, but introduced three players making their Full International débuts: Wolfgang Fahrian in goal, Jurgen Kurbjuhn at left-back and Willi Koslowski at outside-right—Fahrian is twenty, Kurbjuhn twenty-one and Koslowski twenty-five. And, by way

Continued overleaf



West Germany team Saarbrucken provided the Spanish national team with some pre-Chile training at Madrid's Metropolitan Stadium. Our picture shows an incident from this match which gave little indication of the potential of the Spanish team. (Central 1.)

Continued from previous page

of contrast, they brought in thirty-four-year-old Hans Schafer at outside-left for his thirty-fifth appearance—but the last was against Scotland three years ago! Perhaps the Germans felt Schafer's inclusion would recall the time of their World Cup triumph in 1954 when he was also a member of the team!

Schafer himself grabbed at the opportunity to stake a claim for appearing in his third World Cup series and scored West Germany's second goal early in the second half of the match against Uruguay. Haller had opened the scoring in the twenty-fifth minute and the newcomer Koslowski completed it a quarter of an hour from the end. Uruguay also had a newcomer but not, I understand, a youngster, in the left-back or left-half, Alejandro Majewski—he retained his place against Hungary and Czechoslovakia and was one of the few encouraging performers for the South Americans.

Experienced

Another first-appearance went to Penarol's nineteen-year-old inside-forward Pedro Rocha—but it lasted for only twenty-five minutes when the experienced Douksas came on as substitute; and a quarter of an hour from the end Ronald Lancon made his international début at centre-forward (Cabrera going off).

With few changes and no "green" players Uruguay journeyed on from Hamburg to Budapest where Hungary and a crowd of 90,000 awaited them. Hungary had their strongest eleven in the field with Bozsik at inside-right making, it is said, his 100th appearance—I suspect these include two or three in matches that should not be ranked as Full Internationals. No matter the player himself celebrated by scoring Hungary's only goal—equalising, in the sixty-fifth minute, the goal scored by Uruguay's inside-right, Silva, in the fifty-sixth minute.

Against the Czechs another draw would possibly have been a fair result—certainly there was not a two-goal margin between the two sides. But—and it is significant but—the Czechs are going through an uneven passage at the moment as they showed all too clearly against Sweden in Gothenburg. This is partly I think reaction from the pressure of their Qualifying matches when they needed to bring themselves to a playing performance peak to master the considerable challenge of Scotland, and partly because of their failure so far to hit upon a successful forward line combination. Even familiar Czech figures like the two Jans, Popluhar (at centre-back) and Pospical (at outside-right) were sadly out of touch in Gothenburg and both were replaced, with encouraging results, against Uruguay.

Stibranyi of Spartak Trnava played at outside-right and Lala of Dynamo Prague made his International début at right-back with Tichy moving to centre-back. Kadabra changed from inside-left to centre-forward, releasing Jelinek to play on the left wing (his best position) and letting Andrei Kvasnak return at inside-left. Kvasnak, however, appears still to be feeling the effects of his recent knee operation and probably would have been left out had not clever Molnar, given a run against Flamengo, the Brazilian club side, in a match that the Czechs won 4-1, also been injured.

The question mark remains against the Czechoslovak forward line. The defence, however, as it was against Uruguay, has a Chile-bound look about it. For the record—Jelinek, Kadabra and inside-right Scherer scored for the Czechs and Sasia for Uruguay. The interval score was one-all.

Any hopes Uruguay may have entertained about avenging the Russians' win against them in Montevideo were soon dashed as the Soviet players, more than any they had met previously, exposed the *team* weakness of the Uruguayans. The occasional signs of individual brilliance shown by their players had no chance of making much impression against the well-organised, efficiency of the Russians. Uruguay may take cold comfort from the fact that two of Alexei Mamykin's three goals were scored from the penalty spot—although they can have no complaints about the excellent way in which Swedish referee, Bergstrom, controlled the game.

Mamykin

The opening goal—a penalty—came after eighteen minutes' play and Mamykin scored his second nine minutes later. On the stroke of half-time Igor Tchislenko, playing at outside-right, made it three-nil for the Russians and Valentin Ivanov and Mamykin (another penalty) added two more goals in the second half.

Much of the Soviet Union's continuing success has been attributed to the play of their wingers, Metreveli and Meshki—and rightly so. But it seems futile for their rivals to expect that in their absence (through injury or match-fatigue) the USSR would be seriously weakened. Against Uruguay, Metreveli was rested and Tchislenko promoted from the "B" team (beaten two-one incidentally by the Swedish "B" team)—and, in addition to scoring a good goal, Tchislenko was one of the best players on the field!

April	4: England	3	Austria	1
,,	7: Sweden	3	Czechoslovakia	1
,,	11: Luxembourg	1	U.S.S.R.	3
,,	14: Scotland	2	England	0
,,	18: Sweden	0	U.S.S.R.	2
,,	22: Brazil	4	Paraguay	0
,,	25: Brazil	6	Paraguay	0
,,	29: Hungary	2	Turkey	1
May	2: Scotland	2	Uruguay	3

Tottenham's pending European Cup match against Benfica meant that the return of England's prodigal son, Jimmy Greaves, had to be delayed and the prolific Second Division goal-scorer Roger Hunt of Liverpool made a first International appearance at inside-right against Austria. Another newcomer, Alan Peacock of Middlesbrough, was selected to play at centre-forward but had to cry off because of injury, and Ray Crawford, who has done more than any other single player to bring success to Ipswich Town, got another run. Stan Anderson of Sunderland, after being on the fringe of honours for two or three seasons and then "forgotten" for a year, got his chance in place of an off-form Robson at right-half.

The visit of the Austrians to Wembley gave the opportunity for a great deal of pre-match writing about the problems of the "retreating defence"—the latest piece of tactical gossip to be discovered by insular

British sports writers as evidence of the strange ways of non-British teams! Personally I have yet to see any team—from the local recreation park scratch elevens onwards—that did not retreat as attacks were mounted against them.

The England defence in the game against Austria were commendably quick in coming away from a rearguard action to initiate their own attacks. Unfortunately there was a sad lack of urgency about the forwards that did give the Austrians plenty of time.

Nevertheless England were able to exactly reverse the score of their last match against Austria in Vienna and could feel some satisfaction on that account. The satisfaction departed a little when Austria's play was revealed, by the narrow margin of their victory over the Republic of Ireland, to be much below what it had promised to be on the basis of their results in 1961: and vanished entirely when Scotland not only won at Hampden Park for the first time in a quarter of a century against England but thoroughly outplayed them in the bargain. And on paper this was a stronger England side with Greaves at inside-right and, bowing it seemed to the clamour of the newspapers, Smith at centre-forward.

Assessment

And, during an adjournment to the post-mortem, comes the news of Scotland's defeat by the odd goal in five to Uruguay in a brawling sort of a game! Too late for detailed assessment in this feature but immediately it needs to be said that Scotland were without their contrasting inside-forwards, White and Law, to link with their wing-halves in mid-field. As for Uruguay this slender victory has saved them some blushes when they return to Montevideo and perhaps there is some significance that their sole victory in Europe has been gained in the match where it mattered least from the point of view of gaining or revealing World Cup secrets.

Sweden's victory over the Czechs was a personal triumph for their new team manager, Lennart Nyman. Disappointed that Kurt Hamrin was not available from Italy, Nyman had a further setback to his plans on the morning of the match when strong right-half "Knivsta" Sandberg had to cry-off with tummy trouble. Gosta Lundell of Hammarby deputised and had a brilliant match and with his wing-half partner, Prawitz Oberg, provided the midfield drive that was the prime reason for Sweden's win. Oberg also grabbed two of Sweden's three goals and but for missing a penalty would have got that International rarity—a wing-half's hat-trick.

Against the Soviet Union, although Hamrin was available and played, it was back to cold reality for the Swedes and the result but a further indication of the present high quality of the Russians' play. As they had done earlier against Luxembourg they eased up once they were comfortably in the lead but, although this meant that Yachin was called upon to reveal his goalkeeping greatness—including saving a penalty against Sweden, the Soviet team were always in control. Not, it is pleasant to record, that this need minimise the gallant display of Luxembourg who, after falling behind in the seventh minute, got back on level terms in the eighteenth minute with a goal by Schmitt.

The Russians scored two more before the interval, however, and were then content.

But whilst Russia have been chalking up victories in Europe, the World Cup title-holders and favourites Brazil have been having their own goal spree against Paraguay in two Oswaldo Cruz Cup matches played, in the Brazilian fashion, within a few days of each other in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. Rather than dismiss these matches in a dozen words or so I intend to return to them in the course of next month's South American Commentary. In the meantime consider this—the Brazilian line-up for the first match in Rio was Gilmar; Djalma Santos, Nilton Santos; Zozimo, Bellini, Zito; Garrincha, Didi, Countinho, Pele and Pepe with Vava coming on in place of Countinho early in the second half when Brazil were already leading four-nil. *The whole of the defence with the exception of Zozimo, and four of the six forwards were in the Brazilian eleven that beat Sweden five-two in the* 1958 *World Cup Final.* Zozimo was with the 1958 party and played in the quarter-final match against Wales; and only Coutinho and Pepe were "newcomers"!

April 1:	Belgium	3	Netherlands	1
" 8:	R. of Ireland	2	Austria	3
" 11:	Wales	4	N. Ireland	0
" 11:	France	1	Poland	3
" 15:	Morocco	1	Poland	3

I hope that space remains for a brief comment on these matches if only to give credit to Belgium for their continuing evidence of improvement and to Poland for two encouraging away victories.

World federation for supporters

ONE of the most important items to be discussed at the thirty-sixth annual conference of the National Federation of Football Supporters' Clubs (England & Wales) at Torquay on June 2 is the formation of an *international* **federation of supporters — a "World League" for supporters (writes TONY PULLEIN).**

There are already established federations of supporters in France, South Africa and Scotland and we know of supporters' organisations in Ireland, Malta, Australia, Belgium, West Germany and several other countries. The international federation will probably be formed with four member countries but we aim to see it expand until it embraces every country that plays the game.

The international federation will provide the central organisation through which any football enthusiast in the world will be able to make quick contact with his counterpart many thousands of miles away. It will be possible to arrange for travel, hotel accommodation and reception of travelling supporters.

There will be many barriers to be broken—political and religious ones being the biggest—before the organisation really becomes established but it should not be impossible to find ways and means of bringing folks with a common interest from all over the world together under one roof.

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Both West Germany and Argentina will be represented in Chile and unlike Karl Rappan's Swiss team are considered to have better chances of success in the competition. Menendez (left) of Argentina battles with Erhardt (West Germany). (M.I.)

KARL RAPPAN IS RIVAL FOR HERO WILLIAM TELL

In an exclusive interview, HANSPETER BORN learns much from the Swiss coach

THE *Café de la Bourse* in Geneva is an elegantly furnished, pleasant restaurant and the excellent coffee with which you are served amply compensates for the outside wintry elements. The owner of the establishment, a calm and unassuming Austrian in his fifties, is sitting opposite me and carefully collects his thoughts before answering my questions. There is a definite charm about this man, whose soft Viennese accent makes German sound like a polished and agreeable language. Occasionally he turns his massive head round to acknowledge the "Bonjour Monsieur" of one of the restaurant's regular patrons, who by now have become used to the fact that M. Rappan, the proprietor, has become a public figure.

Karl Rappan, who also happens to be the manager and coach of the Swiss national team, is indeed a public figure in Switzerland, or rather he is a national hero and as such quite a serious rival to William Tell. However, he seems averse to the publicity surrounding him and tends to treat journalists with wary reserve. But this reserve soon melted, when I told him that I wished to interview him for WORLD SOCCER. He interrupted me, asking how it came that English youth teams in comparison with continental and particularly Swiss ones played with much more physical enthusiasm. Deploring the softness of the Swiss he highly praised English football in general admitting his personal preference for forceful and straightforward soccer. We quickly found ourselves involved in a lively discussion relating to varied aspects of soccer. He expressed his views freely on the following items.

SWISS SOCCER. "The international level of soccer in Switzerland is low, despite the recent successful streak of the national team. There are too many clubs in the First (semi-professional) Division and moreover too many talents are wasted, because young players are paid better in the lower "amateur" divisions, where hard work is not essential for success. Another reason for the low quality of Swiss soccer is the high standard of living in the country. There are far too many distractions for young people and the incentive of social advancement through soccer is totally lacking."

COACHING. "Besides a thorough knowledge of the game a successful coach or manager needs to be a good psychologist. He must be the player's friend and teacher. His friend without losing his authority, his teacher without adopting the attitude of a military superior."

SELECTION. "Only one person should be responsible for the selection of a national team. This in my opinion is a better method than selection through a board of selectors. No one is infallible but one person making the occasional mistake is preferable to several persons making several mistakes.

"I always try to choose a team and not eleven individuals. I put great emphasis on the character of the players. Form is secondary to character. I often choose a man, whose moral qualities I can rely on, even if he is at the time not at the best of his form."

TACTICS. "With the Swiss team tactics play an important role. The Swiss is not a natural footballer, but he is usually sober in his approach to things. He can be persuaded to think ahead and to calculate ahead.

"A team can be chosen according to two points of view. Either you have eleven individuals, who owing to sheer class and natural ability are enabled to beat their opponents—Brazil would be an example for that—or you have eleven average footballers, who have to be integrated into a particular conception, a plan. This plan aims at getting the best out of each individual for the benefit of the team. The difficult thing is to enforce absolute tactical discipline without taking away the players' freedom of thinking and acting."

THE SWISS TEAM. "The present team is from the point of view of style not as strong as the 1954 side. I should like to use the same style of play as in 1954 (straight-forward long, deep passing), but as a rule one has to adapt the style to the players one has at one's disposal. Certain natural limitations cannot be changed and some of the present players do not seem to be suited too well for the 1954 style. You cannot expect express-speed from a naturally slow player."

CHILE. "It is futile to make predictions about the chances of the Swiss team. So many unpredictable factors such as the ability, acclimatisation, etc., will be decisive.

"In Chile class alone will not decide. Who will win? I think one of the South American teams because they are used to the conditions." On asking Rappan what he thought of the successful Russian tour to South America this winter he shrugged. "With the World Cup at stake it will be an altogether different matter."

THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER LEAGUE, which was founded last year by Rappan. "I founded this international championship for the following reason—An improvement in the quality of the game in the different countries can only be achieved if several clubs of each country are engaged in an international competition. The European Cup is an excellent institution, but it can do but little for the improvement of soccer in the different countries, because only one team takes part. Often it is the same team every year, there is Real, Juventus, Rapid Vienna, etc.

In the summer championship four clubs of every participating country get the chance to benefit from the contact with teams of other countries, the chance to experience and study new ideas and new styles of play. Automatically this contact on a broad basis has fruitful impact on the football in all the partici-

Continued on page 32

Mexican goalkeeper Antonio Carbajal wears an agonised expression as he dives to grip the ball during a practice session. He is expected to announce his retirement after the World Cup finals in Chile. (Planet 1.)

ROGER MACDONALD brings one part of the soccer world up to date in

Caribbean clubs closing the gap

MEXICO played two international matches away from home in March, only drawing 1-1 with little Haiti and then —even more surprising—holding Argentina to a single goal in Buenos Aires. Details of the second game are not, as I write, yet to hand, but early reports indicate that the Mexicans packed their defence and played for a draw. They were so nearly successful that one wonders exactly what bearing these tactics may have on their matches in Vina del Mar. A draw against Spain or even Czechoslovakia is by no means as impossible as it seemed a year ago.

The dieting system introduced by Team Manager Alejandro Scopelli, formerly a coach in Spain (Espanol-Barcelona) and South America, appears to have increased the Mexicans' stamina in recent games—usually a major weakness among Central American teams. Briefly it entails one diet for training sessions, another for pre-match meals, and a third for rest periods. The players do not regard the system favourably, but they are prepared to modify their appetites so long as it brings results!

Mexico's attack, however, is still their main problem: only six goals in nine games shows exactly how much they rely on a stubborn defence, and especially on their excellent goalkeepers, Carbajal and Mota. Antonio Carbajal is likely to announce his retirement after the World Cup Finals, leaving Antonio Mota—who has been in and out of the international team since 1953—with the thankless task of keeping the Mexican goal. Mota, incidentally, played against Brazil in the 1954 World Cup: he will not, I fancy, be eager to repeat that doubtful distinction in Chile!

The draw in Port-au-Prince, in a match marking the Haitian F.A.'s Golden Jubilee, was quite remarkable in view of Haiti's international record. In 1954 Mexico beat them 8-0 and 4-0 in the World Cup Qualifying Tournament, and they had another 8-0 defeat at the hands of Costa Rica only last year. But it only goes to show how rapidly the gap is closing between Central American teams, for even the strongest have fallen from grace in away matches.

The scarcity of away victories in the Caribbean was particularly evident in the World Cup ties. Only Costa Rica, in fact, won away from home, and this was against a Honduras eleven who had previously defeated them at the Tegucigalpa stadium by the odd goal in three.

The second Honduras-Costa Rica encounter was necessary because Guatemala, already unable to qualify for the finals, decided that her outstanding match with Honduras would be financially unsound, and promptly scratched from Section Two of the North American and Central Zone.

On previous occasions Honduras would have been awarded two points by default, but this manifestly altered the League table, and a play-off at Tegucigalpa was ordered instead. Since Honduras had failed to win their home match with Guatemala (the score was 1-1), two points in Guatemala City would have been a difficult task for them, and the Costa Ricans could consider themselves hard done by with a play-off to face away from home. But as events turned out they won deservedly by the only goal of the match and clinched a place in the triangular tournament with the Antilles and Mexico.

Intense rivalry

The rivalry between Costa Rica and Mexico has intensified during the past few years, and the difference between their playing standards has narrowed correspondingly. In 1956 Mexico won 3-1 in San José; two years later they were hard-pressed to draw 1-1 in the World Cup Qualifying Tournament; and a single goal in the second half cost them two vital points in the recent play-off pool.

But where home advantage counts for so much, the Antilles—completely outclassed in San José (0-6) and Mexico City (0-7)—had the last word. They defeated Costa Rica 2-0 and came within a few inches of scoring against Mexico towards the end of what turned out to be a goal-less draw. But the Mexicans in general and overworked goalkeeper Mota in particular breathed again: they could pack their bags for Chile.

The Antilles' unbeaten home record of two years' standing has emphasised their superiority over neighbouring Surinam, once another Dutch colony. A 4-1 defeat (1960) at Paramaribo in the Olympic Qualifying

MEXICO AND COSTA RICA LEAD THEIR FELLOW COUNTRIES NOW

Tournament was turned into a 2-1 victory at the same venue in the World Cup some eighteen months later. The Surinamese returned to Curacao City determined to redress the damage, but with three leading players—Eliaxer, Michel Kruin and Erwin Sparendam—enticed away to Holland, they could do nothing against an Antilles side determined to sit tight in their own penalty area.

Both Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles recorded away wins in Cuba, where the ban on baseball and the influx of Eastern European coaches has brought a steady improvement in playing standards. The Cubans are not yet, however, capable of holding the best European teams—as Dynamo Tiflis' 6-0 and 6-1 victories over the national side and a Havana XI illustrated last November.

Banik Ostrava's 5-1 victory over Lawton, one of Cuba's leading teams, proved to be the biggest in matches between Caribbean clubs and overseas visitors. Some of Europe's and South America's top clubs found the going tough indeed. Millionarios, the Colombian champions, beat Red Star Bratislava 2-1; the Antilles held the same Czech side to a meritorious draw; and Municipales of Guatemala justified their position at the top of the League in holding Ujpest Dozsa to a 3-3 draw in the Doroteo-Flores Stadium of Guatemala City. The attendance was reported as being over 50,000: ample evidence of the growing interest in football.

Victory for L.D.A.

A few days before the Hungarians had played two matches in Costa Rica, beating Herediano, the current champions, by one goal to nil, but losing to L.D.A. San José by two goals to one. This Costa Rican victory will come as no surprise to any West Ham supporter who saw the excellent display given by the combined L.D.A./Saprissa touring side against the London club in 1960.

L.D.A., or, to give them their full title—*Association Liga Deportiva Alajeulense*—were founded in June, 1919, and are the largest sports organisation in the country. They have won the National League title on eleven occasions, outright in 1928, 1939, 1941, 1945, 1949, 1950 and a hat-trick from 1958 to 1960. Much of their success can be credited to the coaching of Bugo Tassara, once a university professor at Santiago, who resigned his job with Colo Colo to take up a position with L.D.A. and the National Side.

L.D.A.'s victory was due primarily to an excellent display by their international quartette—goalkeeper Carlos Alvarado, who has over twenty-five caps to his credit, inside-forwards Juan Josez Gomez and Carlos Herrera, and centre-forward Juan Ulloa, top goalscorer in the League during 1959 and 1960.

But it is Saprissa, L.D.A.'s principal rivals in the capital, who may well win the League this season. They have not finished first since their fantastic six-in-a-row record of 1952-1957, but with a forward-line which includes experienced internationals Rudolfo Herrera, Ruben Jiminez (who scored against West Ham) and Marvin Rodriguez, victory number seven seems just around the corner.

El Aguila of San Salvador and America of Mexico City may be among the new entries in the second Central American club championship scheduled for this year. El Aguila unexpectedly beat Atlante, Mante and Juventud Olympica to take the Salvador title; America only just failed to emulate Guadalajara's success over a top Brazilian club (Santos, in fact!) in the fifth Mexican Pentagonal Championship. In the decisive match they lost 2-1 to Botofogo despite a fine rally in the closing stages. Pina scored their goal.

Better pay has produced a higher standard of refereeing in Central America, and there have been no repercussions of the match some two years ago between Juventud of Salvador and Argentinos Juniors, which finished in a bloody riot with a fire blazing furiously in the National Stadium. The various associations released the following statistics of referees who had reached international standard by 1961: Costa Rica 57, Guatemala 200, Haiti 25, Honduras 65, Nicaragua 32, Netherlands Antilles 29, El Salvador 59, Venezuela 170.

The pay, however, is probably in proportion to the risks involved, and in any case it hardly compares with that of the national coaches; in Honduras, for example, Brazilian journalist Elcy Nunes is reported to earn over £250 a month. But perhaps salaries need to be large while jobs are so precarious....

At present Central American teams lag behind the European and South American sides in sheer penetrative power: results like Argentina 6, Surinam 2; Brazil 7, Costa Rica 1; Surinam 3, Holland 4; and Brazil 5 (all headed), Panama 0 have been a fair reflection on the past difference in standard. But Mexico, and especially Costa Rica, are closing the gap between the Caribbean and the rest of the world. Perhaps this will be more evident at Wembley in 1966 than in Chile in 1962. The answer lies in the future.

Meantime the honour of the Caribbean at the 1962 World Cup Finals lies in the hands of Mexico. No one expects the impossible and that the Mexicans will triumph. But if Mexico can acquit herself with honour, then that will be sufficient reward for the venture.

However, by the time the 1970 World Cup is staged, Mexico, and indeed the whole of the Caribbean area, may well have influenced the game to such an extent that they will no longer be considered as outsiders in such international competition.

The next eight years might well see a considerable change to this end.

A composite Caribbean eleven at present

Alvarado
(L.D.A. and Costa Rica)

Pena (Oro and Mexico) — **Boerlieder** (Robin Hood and Surinam)

Cardenas (Zacatepec and Mexico) — **Sepulveda** (Guadalajara and Mexico) — **M. Rodriguez** (Saprissa and Costa Rica)

Reyes (Guadalajara and Mexico) — **Gamboa** (Millionarios and Colombia)

R. Herrera (Saprissa and Costa Rica) — **Ulloa** (L.D.A. and Costa Rica) — **Jiminez** (Saprissa and Costa Rica)

Czech team Banik Ostrava defeated Lawton 5-1 in the Latinamerican Stadium, Havana and the picture shows Czech winger Pospichal in possession watched by Cuban defenders Piedra and Zenaido. (Keystone 1.)

BRAZIL—ONLY FAVOURITES!

WORLD SOCCER brings you another outstanding feature which will prove an invaluable guide to the World Cup games in Chile. Each competing country's prospects are analysed and their probable opening line-up is given. This is the feature that will keep you in direct communication with the pre-match events in Chile.

ERIC BATTY'S World Cup special

IN boxing, racing and football, the hottest of favourites frequently come to grief and like knock-out competitions of every kind the World Cup is no respecter of reputations. Some of the world's greatest ever teams have cracked under the strain of playing six top line matches in less than three weeks, and in such circumstances even the slightest of injuries add to the complications. With only three days to recover from a muscle strain, many players turn out only 90 per cent fit, and a bad knock early on in a game can reduce their effectiveness still further.

For the selectors and trainers it is a tough and worrying period and when injuries threaten their star players they, too, are vulnerable to error. There are no teams bound for Chile that can afford to be without their key man even for one match; Brazil cannot replace Pele, Spain have no other man capable of performing Di Stefano's role, and England have no other forward who can score goals as efficiently as does Greaves. If these men are not fully fit the trainer must be tempted to gamble—and sometimes it will not come off.

Another factor that often complicates a reasonable forecast is the reaction of various teams to other styles of play. Generally for example we can say that Russia, England and West Germany practice a more robust type of game than do the South Americans and we cannot be sure how Argentina will react to tough tackling by England defenders when they meet at Rancagua. Neither can we know in advance whether the Chileans attack will be happy when faced with the Swiss defensive tactics or the Italians' barn door!

We cannot be certain, but we can hazard a fairly accurate guess, and after weighing up all the possibilities it seems to come down to one deep seated conviction. Nothing can shake me from the view that when Sir Stanley Rous presents the Jules Rimet trophy to the winning captain on June 17, the hands that gratefully receive it will be those of a Brazilian!

There is a school of thought that believes Brazil to be too firmly entrenched as favourites. These people argue with some justification that in 1950 Brazil were certainties; that in 1954 the Hungarians had already won the trophy before the series began and still they were beaten!

Accepted

All this is of course true, but it must also be accepted that today we know more about world football than we ever did before, and are therefore in a far better position to judge. In 1954, little was known about the Germans who came from nowhere to beat Hungary in the final with Fritz Walter, Werner Liebrich and Helmut Rahn stamping themselves as World Class players in the process, but today we know the German players and it is a fact that they have no player to compare with Walter or Liebrich.

Another illustration of our improved knowledge is provided by Russia who have usually managed to hide their strengths and weaknesses from the general public. When their Moscow Dynamo team visited Britain in 1945 the experts knew only that they were Russians, and all and sundry were shattered by their brilliant football. We did not know what to expect from Semichastny, Bobrov, Khomich and Archangelski—how could we? We had never seen them before!

Now through television and the aeroplane we are far better armed than ever before. Those whose job it is to keep in touch with the game on a world basis can do so quite easily, and while we cannot be forever flitting from one part of this planet to another, foreign tours at club and international level have so increased in recent years that in the space of twelve months we can see at least 95 per cent of the world's best players within a 500 miles radius of Paris.

Position

Having seen the players or at any rate most of them, we are in a position to judge their country's possibilities for it is a fact that any team is limited by the combined talents of the players they can call on. When seeking possible World Champions we must look first for World Class players, and if we fail to find at least one or preferably two great players in any particular country we can rule them out of the running. A group of good players can make a good team; a group of good players can make a good team, but if we aspire to greatness we must add to the good team one or two outstanding players in midfield (who will do the thinking) and one or two who score goals as naturally and easily as most of us can eat strawberries.

Now, having established just what it is we are seeking take a look at the sixteen finalists group by group.

Brazil are World Cup favourites and the man everyone will be looking at in Chile is Pele, seen here making goal-tracks in a match between a Brazilian selection and the Flamengo club. (Planet 1.)

At Arica we have what is to my mind the strongest of the four groups, where Russia, Uruguay, Yugoslavia and Colombia will do battle. Colombia we can rule out right away with no chance. "Alligator" Sanchez in goal and inside-left Delio Gamboa are their best players but the team as a whole lacks experience and they have never met defenders as strong and uncompromising as the Russians, for example.

Russia, who have improved considerably since they recalled centre-forward Ponedelnik last autumn, following the spring and summer disappointments, have a strong all-round team bursting with confidence after their victorious South American tour last December. Strong in defence they have Lev the Lion Yachin in goal, and when he is in the mood he is almost unbeatable! Metreveli and Meschki provide speed on the flanks, Ivanov and Ponedelnik the punch, and the way I see it the Russians are missing only one ingredient — a really outstanding "director" in midfield.

Talented

This task falls upon their talented captain Igor Netto, who missed the 1958 series through injury, yet while he is certainly a fine player it must be acknowledged he is no Bozsik and cannot be compared with Zito for example. Russia I believe will do well, but they will be in trouble when they clash with a side possessing all their virtues *and* a highly skilled general!

The Yugoslavs should prove to be one of the best all-round teams in Chile and though the average age of their players is expected to be around twenty-three they have plenty of experience. With Dragolsav Sekularac the supreme artist and a young and talented string of defenders like Soskic, Durkovic and Yusufi they should live up . . the excellent reputation their country has built for good football, but they are also likely to fail where their other fine teams have failed—in front of goal. With a Pele, Puskas or Ponedelnik they could be world-beaters but the sad truth is that since the "bombardier" Bora Kostic moved to Italy they have lacked a sharp-shooter and this defect will probably lead to their ultimate elimination. Just when this will come is hard to say for they should give a good account of themselves.

Whether Yugoslavia reaches the quarter-final or not could well depend on Uruguay who are one of the big "ifs" of the series. Against Russia and Hungary at the end of last year they were disappointing, but with ample time for preparation they could be much improved. More will be known of their chances after the European tour which they are undertaking before the World Cup and which unfortunately has only just commenced. Penarol the champions and Nacional their great rivals are expected to provide most of the players, and the truth is that between them they cannot muster a player to compare with Andrade, Schiaffino or Varela.

Twice winners of the world title, the F.A. must accept a high degree of responsibility if they fail for allowing their top clubs to import so many forwards from Argentina and Brazil and thus hamper the development of their own players. With a total population of only two-and-a-half million they cannot afford to flood their best teams with foreigners and get away with it.

World Cup outsiders Mexico are not expected to create much Chile surprise. Here in a match at Wembley last year against England, Gerry Hitchens (right) challenges an opponent as Mexico sink 8-0. (Central 1.)

In defence Martinez, Gonzalez and Goncalvez will be the strong men and in midfield Escalada could fulfil the promise he has displayed for the last two or three years. If they could find an inside-forward to make use of their talented wingers, Cubillas on the right and Pinto on the left, they too could do well, but as far as the supreme honour is concerned, no.

From this group I expect to see Russia and either Yugoslavia or Uruguay reach the quarter-finals.

Line-ups

The likely Arica teams: **Russia:** Yachin; Doubinski (or Ostrovsky), Tchokeli; Voronin, Maslenkine, Netto; Metreveli, Ivanov, Ponedelnik, Gussarov (or Mamykin), Meschki. **Uruguay:** Maidana; Martinez, Goncalvez; De Souza, Gonzalez, Alvarez; Cubillas, Douksas, Sasia, Escalada, Pinto. **Yugoslavia:** Soskic; Durkovic, Yusufi; Radakovic, Nikolic, Vasovic; Cebinac, Sekularac, Jerkovic, Galic, Bego. **Colombia:** Sanchez; Echeverry, Calle; Diaz, Zuloaga, Lopez; Gonzalez, Arias, Escobar, Gamboa, Coll.

Group II teams will have a slight advantage over the other twelve finalists in that they will have had previous experience on the pitch where the final will be staged, and the most fortunate of all in this respect will of course be Chile who are playing at home. Almost anywhere else in the world, Chile could be discounted but ground advantage means much in this case and especially so as their three preliminary round opponents are all from Europe. With everything in their favour Chile could reach the final as Sweden did four years ago when similarly well placed, but I doubt it!

In this group I expect West Germany to prove the strongest team, Switzerland the poorest and if the Italians do not make up their minds soon about who they want to send to Chile and who is going to be in charge they could run the Swiss close!

Italy have been dithering around for months, and still do not know who will fill the vital inside-forward positions. Maschio (Atlanta) is the likely choice for inside-right, a grafter of all-round ability and Altafini in the centre can be relied upon to score goals if the chances are presented, but the problem spot is inside-left. Personally I would not include Sivori whose temperament makes him unreliable, but more than that he is an individualist. Brilliant at times all his efforts are bent towards enhancing the reputation of Sivori and while it must be admitted he can and often does win games almost single-

Continued on page 28

Real Madrid left-winger Gento is one of the fastest players in the world to-day and was an automatic choice for the national team when the Chile side was chosen. (Metalmann 1.)

Club before country is the Spanish way

MERELY TOURISTS?

***ROGER MACDONALD** discusses the point*

THE Spanish international team is an enigma. Unbeaten during 1961 and rated first on a success percentage, they made twenty-four changes in seven matches without recording a single convincing victory. Yet the players selected took Real Madrid to an incredible series of League records, Barcelona to the European Cup Final, and started Real, CFB., Valencia and Atletico Madrid on the road to three European trophies—the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the Inter-cities Fairs Cup, and the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

The inference is obvious. European club competitions come first, the Spanish League and Cup second, international matches a long way behind, third. The result is a 1961 international record impressive on paper but only moderate in reality.

Club before country is even more the practice in Spain than it is in England, particularly when nationality by birthright means so little. Pedro Escartin, team manager during 1961, tried to revise the League fixture list so that the national side could get together for a month before the World Cup. He failed. Shortly afterwards the Spanish F.A. officially announced a policy of as few international matches as possible before the trip to Chile. One wonders whether that policy was one of choice, rather than of necessity.

The emphasis on club before country was also reflected in the spiritless approach to international matches during 1961. Only in the away match with Wales did Spain show any real determination—and it was determination not to be beaten rather than to win, as events turned out, by the odd goal in three. Reports of each of their home matches regularly included such adjectives as "casual", "uninspiring", or "mediocre"—somewhat inappropriate to Europe's only unbeaten side.

Last year's selection committee, headed by Benito Pico, with Pedro Escartin and Miguel Munoz as manager and coach respectively, failed to reconcile national interests with club rivalry. They had obvious leanings toward Real Madrid but were unwilling to provoke criticism from other leading clubs by selecting the Spanish Champions *en bloc*. Their compromise, six or seven Madrid men plus the pick of the remainder, never proved successful.

Sad reading

The story of international selection during 1961 makes sad and incomprehensible reading. Only four positions remained settled, while twenty-four players were selected, dropped, and selected again in the other seven. Only three players, all from Real Madrid, played in every game—Santamaria, Del Sol, and Di Stefano. Thirteen forwards could score only ten goals between them in seven games against second-class opposition.

The first match of 1961, against a French team going from bad to worse, produced an uninspiring 2-0 victory. The attack was clearly at fault, but only outside-right Tejada and inside-right Kubala (soon then to retire) lost their places, while four defenders—Vicente, Rivilla, Casado and Vidal—were discarded. Barcelona's Ramallets and Foncho (right-back) returned for the games with Wales, the latter scoring a long-range goal at Cardiff but without otherwise distinguishing himself. Calleja (Atletico Madrid) came in at left-back, with unknown Zoco of Second Division Osasuna a surprise choice at right-half.

The forward-line now seemed settled with Aguirre (Bilbao), Del Sol (Madrid), Di Stefano (Real Madrid), Suarez (Barcelona) and Gento (Real Madrid) as the men in favour, but Suarez's departure for Italy meant that the inside-left position still remained to be filled.

It proved quite a problem. Del Sol had played there against France, but still persisted in moving over to the right; Suarez was gone; and now Peiro, Puskas, Marcelino and Ruiz tried their luck. Peiro scored a goal against Wales at Chamartin but had a poor game in the friendly with Argentina. Puskas replaced him in the away match with Morocco and then cracked two ribs in a League match against Mallorca. His deputy, Marcelino, scored a goal in the return leg but did little else; and finally, in desperation, Ruiz was brought forward from left-half to add punch to the attack. He scored Spain's equaliser in Paris, but never looked happy in the forward line.

The defence, despite conceding only five goals in the seven games, continued to have a "new look" about it after almost every

ONLY FOUR SPANISH PLAYERS WERE "CERTAINTIES" FOR CHILE!

match. Vicente and Araquistain, both of Real Madrid, succeeded Ramallets in goal; Rivilla returned at right-back only to lose his place yet again to Pique; and three Real defenders were tried at left-half in quick succession—Vidal, Ruiz and Pachin. Calleja, Areta, Mestres and Miera all had undistinguished appearances at left-back, while only Zoco—who made up in determination what he lacked in skill—showed any real consistency at right-half.

The morale of the national side, low enough after an extraordinary number of team changes, reached rock bottom early in 1962. The cause was the publication of a confidential report by ex-Team Manager Escartin—he had resigned in December—on Spain's Probables and Possibles for Chile. Escartin was indiscreet enough to leave his notebook in a taxi-cab, from where it "found its way" to a newspaper office, and thence to a prominent position in the next edition.

No purpose can be served by twisting the knife in the wound. Suffice to say that the criticism of players was blunt, and in some cases frank to the point of brutality: it has certainly done no good to a group of stars with already little enough faith in each other's ability.

Newspaper

So it can be seen that all is by no means well in Spain's international side. One newspaper headline following the 3-2 victory over Morocco — "To Chile — Tourist Class" — seems an apt enough comment. Only four players—Gento, Del Sol, Di Stefano and Santamaria—are sure of their places, and not one of them was really consistent during 1961. Spain have umpteen possibles for the other seven positions, but few players capable of rising to an occasion such as the World Cup.

New Team Manager Hernandez Coronado and coach Miguel Munoz have two logical solutions to their particularly difficult problem—go Real, or go foreign. The former means simply fielding Real Madrid as the national side, while the latter requires the inclusion of such players as Canario (Brazil), Martinez (Paraguay), Kocsis and Puskas (Hungary), and possibly even Seminario (Peru) and Dominguez (Argentina). After all, some of the fans argue, Di Stefano (born in Argentina) and Santamaria (born in Uruguay) have played in the national side for years—a few foreigners more or less makes little difference.

Indication

But, if past events are any indication of future policy, the selectors will again compromise with six Real Madrid players and five from the rest of the League. Their decision is likely to be influenced by the fact that Real defenders Casado, Miera, Vidal and Ruiz all failed in international matches, and that the selection of Puskas produced a storm of protest from the many "patriotic" fans who live *outside* Madrid. In any case, two forwards well over the age of thirty cannot possibly be expected to play three good games in a week at Vina del Mar, and some younger blood is required.

The obvious choice is Luis Suarez—Italian drug investigations and Inter Milan permitting—and if he is available Hernandez and Munoz may decide to play him in all three games in Group Three at Chile, in order to obtain a settled team.

The other players not drawn from the ranks of Real will probably be Calleja (left-back), Rivilla (right-back), Zoco (right-half) and Aguirre (outside-right). The Chamartin men, Araquistain, Santamaria and Pachin in defence, Del Sol, Di Stefano and Gento in attack, are the best available for the remaining positions.

But the 64,000 dollar question centres around whether Di Stefano will be able to overcome the strain of an intensified series of matches and lift Spain to a place among the leading contenders for the World Cup.

It seems doubtful that this thirty-five-year-old can achieve yet another triumph, but he and Puskas have proved the critics wrong in the past, and they might well do so again. If Spain could only supplement Di Stefano's efforts with a spirited determination to pull together as a team, they could succeed sensationally in Chile; however, this team spirit, sadly lacking at present, seems unlikely to appear until the Spanish look elsewhere than to Real Madrid for the fulfilment of their undoubted potential at national level.

Happily for the health of the game Di Stefano has lost little of his mastery. His energy and capacity for work remains unflagging; his guile has been sharpened by years of experience against the world's greatest centre-halves. Di Stefano in action is still without a peer. What other player does as much fetching and carrying, yet always, inevitably, appears in time to finish off a move started by himself in his own penalty area? Age is certainly catching up with Di Stefano, but for the moment he is the one man who could transform the Spanish national side from a collection of individuals into a cohesive unit.

The fact remains, however, that Real Madrid have managed to knit their resources into a world-beating combination. Di Stefano could do the same for the national side, if there was any consistency about the selection of players around this key man.

Eight Real players were included in the Spanish World Cup forty. Barcelona also supplied eight, and Atletico Madrid seven. But one may be reasonably sure that the final line-up will be much the same as before. And there is no reason to suppose that Spain will discover the right blend at this late stage.

Produced

The disappointing results produced by a line of all-star forwards can probably be traced to the fact that the Real Madrid plan nowadays is not so much one of all-out attack, as in the early days of the European Cup, but with Di Stefano doing more mid-field work and less in the firing line, great reliance being placed on the scoring ability of Puskas. Over-elaboration before attacks can be built up necessarily limits the potential scoring power of a front line. Di Stefano, of course, is a splendid architect and creator of attacking ideas and patterns. Nobody would suggest that he adopts anything less than the most obvious routes. Speed of thought and movement are the most baffling and bewildering of his incomparable battery of attacking thrusts.

Barcelona forward star Evaristo (dark shirt) has had a fine season with the club and was receiving excellent notices in the Spanish press towards the end of the League championship in that country. (O.)

Not the whistle happy referee

● KEN ASTON – ENGLAND

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Ken Aston, schoolmaster and the only English referee to officiate in the forthcoming World Cup finals in Chile, is pictured above. He is one of a group of referees from twenty-four different countries assigned to this most exacting of duties in the world's foremost competition. (O.)

● *LESLIE PAGE interviews English World Cup ref.*

THE first time I spoke to Ken Aston, on the telephone, the sound of children singing rose in the background. The explanation is simple. Like many referees, he is a schoolmaster, in this case Headmaster of Newbury Park Primary School on the eastern fringe of London's sprawling suburbia. Ken Aston will be the only English referee to officiate in Chile for the World Cup Finals.

A tall, forceful man, he told me at his Barkingside home that, come what may, the attitude of South American crowds will not affect his judgment. "You can detect the moment 'bite' creeps into a game. That is the time to take action." Better it seemed to attempt a robbery of the Bank of England than a contravention of soccer law beneath Mr. Aston's nose.

Twenty-four

Referees from twenty-four countries will operate for the finals and they will also share the linesman's duties. Twenty-three out of the twenty-four countries send one representative apiece while the host country, Chile, provide seven officials. The United States' Leo Goldstien, Canada's Raymond Morgan, and Scotland's Dougie Davidson will find themselves operating alongside Carlos Robles, Sergio Gonzalez and Domingo Conley of Chile. Interpreters might find the going rough when they glance down the list of F.I.F.A. nominated whistle-men from Peru, Mexico, Bulgaria, Austria, Italy, West Germany, Russia, Yugoslavia and the Netherlands.

For players, the language barrier is overcome by the international pantomime of gestures, and none will be more "vocal" in this respect than the Latin fraternity. Ken Aston expects language difficulties can easily be sorted out. He speaks French fluently, Italian sufficiently to more than get around and Spanish in a modest way.

Prevent

"I always make a point," he told me, "of making certain I know exactly where the interpreter is sitting before I go out on to the field. There is only one way to prevent upsets and that is to tell the players exactly what is expected of them."

After officiating in most European countries, Africa and Venezuela, he has come to the conclusion that almost everywhere outside the United Kingdom sports fans are interested in referees.

"They can tell you the names of referees and the games they controlled just as easily as they can those of the players."

An ankle injury finished Ken Aston's playing career twenty-six years ago and for the first twelve years as an official, he ran the line and was the man in the middle in anything from park matches and the like until he graduated to the reserve section of the Isthmian League. Having served his "apprenticeship" there was no looking back. Making the grade as a referee is a good deal harder, it appears, than getting to the top as a player. In hard cash, especially these days, there is no comparison.

But, there is no reference to this as Ken Aston talks briskly and surely in a dark brown voice about the time when his active days as a referee are over.

"I just get in for another season, you know, and then it will be a case of lecturing and working on refresher courses and generally helping the County Associations." He already has far more requests to talk and lecture than he can handle. Lilleshall, where he has instructed, he considers is a fine scheme and proudly points to a flag on the wall of his home, a memento of a lecture trip to Turkey.

Identity

About the identity cards which will be issued to World Cup players, referees will check these before each match. I asked him if he thought players of similar physical likenesses had been substituted in the past without officials detecting it.

"I think the opposing side would spot it much quicker than the referee and they would soon kick up a fuss. I do not know of any cases where this has happened. I suppose it is a possibility in certain circumstances."

Back injuries are fashionable complaints these days but Ken Aston has been bothered by a particular form which did not respond to treatment by a specialist.

"I have been going six days a week to Upton Park where they have had me on the table for anything from an hour to an hour-and-a-half each time. I am a great deal better now and will be one hundred per cent fit by the time I fly off to Chile. I have to thank Bill Jenkins at West Ham for that."

Spectators

We discussed the most contentious football law, so often misinterpreted by spectators and the cause of more trouble than any other single factor when British clubs have been engaged against European sides—charging the goalkeeper when he is in possession of the ball.

"It was always a difficult law to administer fairly, yet not so difficult as some people make out. The charge must be shoulder-to-shoulder, both parties with their feet on the ground and the goalkeeper not stretching out above his head. Those factors and many others come into it. But there are fractures in the laws now—greenstick fractures, if you like—concerning the ways in which players legally overcome the obstruction law, for example.

"Players change the laws themselves in many ways. Not many forwards waste their time chasing a goalkeeper round his box any more. In ninety minutes of football refereeing, I gather there is quite enough to keep a man occupied. No time, in fact, to judge the standard of soccer, although one outstanding individual must naturally catch the eye," says Ken Aston. "It is much better to take an objective view from the stand, where optically the play is slowed down. But the standard has improved tremendously since the war, players are thinking much more than they did before. Working out the moves amongst themselves, picking up a man's faults, attempting to capitalise on them, perhaps the whole face of football is changing."

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French international Vincent of Reims (left) is shown in a duel with the Brazilian Orreco. Vincent did not play in the recent match in which the Polish team won sensationally in Paris. (Planet 1.)

Month of sensation affects the French

PARIS NEWSLETTER

by

JERRY WEINSTEIN

A MONTH of sensation in France; there is no other way of describing it. It began with the sudden dismissal of Henri Guérin, in his first season as Manager of St. Etienne, exactly one week before the Cup Semi-Final and at a moment when the club were struggling to avoid relegation. The players were most upset and it is their determination to finish the season gloriously for the sake of Guérin that they have thrown themselves into battle.

First of all they beat Angers and reached the Cup Final for the second time in three years. (I repeat my forecast of last month: I take them to defeat Nancy who, incidentally, have now climbed at the time of writing [mid-April] to fourth in the League.) Moreover they have now won three League games on the trot including a 2-1 victory over Racing in Paris, which might well cost the "Penguins", as Racing are nicknamed, the Championship.

DISMISSAL

Guérin's dismissal has been the culmination of severe criticism by the Directors for St. Etienne's decline after a bright start to find themselves threatened with relegation. Now there is a clamour for the recall of the brilliant Jean Snella—he built St. Etienne's splendid championship side of a few seasons ago, and the Cup side—who has proved Switzerland's outstanding Manager with his success at Servette. Meanwhile poor Guérin continues as Manager of France's "B" and Youth sides. He is, of course, not alone in his plight. Sackings of recent months have included Veinante from Strasbourg (where his successor Bob Jonquet has certainly done wonders), Dupal from Sochaux (the club remains bottom but one in the League) and Aimé Nuic from Beziers who although at the foot of the Second Division had the wonderful Cup run I described last month. A manager's life is the same everywhere: it is results that count and yet it is curious that this does not apply to the national side.

The second and perhaps biggest sensation of the month was the defeat of France by Poland in Paris 3-1, a clear, neat win by a more sophisticated, virile, intelligent and workmanlike young Polish side. The team chosen by selector George Verriest had the looks of a neither-here-nor-there. Overlooking the over-30s—Ujlaki, Marcel, Piantoni, Vincent, and the recent newcomers like Van Sam, Heutte, Sauvage, confidence was placed in a motley forward line of players from five different clubs who had never played together before. The French forward line in addition included two Franco-Argentines, more Argentine than French, De Bourgoing from Nice who was capped three times for the country of his birth before coming to France, and Rambert from Lyons. The other three forwards were Casimir Kozakievicz (known as Koza, from Strasbourg), Kopazewski (Kopa for short) and Skulapski (better known as Théo from Monaco). For all these forwards except Raymond Kopa—who by the way had a poorish match—it was their first international and doubtless, for most, the last, for *there must now come some plan.*

Either selector Verriest, whose resignation has been repeatedly, and, in the view of most, rightly sought, much choose a club forward line to give a semblance of coherence or he must choose his youth side forwards who will at least be able to learn. For French national policy is now totally bankrupt.

BULGARIANS

Things could not get worse after the disaster against the Bulgarians in the World Cup play-off, it seemed; little did we know. It is not the mere fact of defeat, even by a club that would rank about half-way up the Second Division in England judged on one match, but the *manner*; the French team has lost all its inventiveness, its artistry, its individualism—even though this may sound odd when I am constantly pleading for some kind of combined play. There is no plan, no tactical preparation, no leadership. Both Manager Verriest and trainer Albert Batteux argued that they should not resign for it would look as though they were deserting a sinking ship. But I feel the time has come when the heads should roll.

Robert Herbin, playing his second game for France, this time at right-half, last time in 1960 at centre-half, was perhaps one of the few real successes of the French team. He now looks forward to a Cup Final medal with St. Etienne and, I think, hardly at all to France's forthcoming international with Italy. Such is the national anguish at his latest calamity that there is a feeling that this match should be postponed. This is ridiculous. France *is capable* of putting out a reasonable side but *not* on the basis of a pre-match chat with a selector who has no personality and no authority and is inclined to ask members of the press with rather too much anguished sincerity: "Well, who would you pick?" We've told Mr. Verriest often enough!

In the closing weeks of the season Reims came into the running for the honour of appearing in next season's European Cup. By the time you read this the winners will, of course, be known in the French championship.

Domestic issues have their position

SOUTH AMERICAN COMMENTARY

THOUGHTS of the World Cup increasingly dominate the attention of soccer enthusiasts everywhere, and nowhere more than in the Latin American countries. For many of these, including some of the larger ones, the World Cup competition only assumes more than academic interest when the final stages are contested in their part of the world—that is, one in every three competitions. This year, of course, not only is the ultimate stage taking place in Chile but the Latin Americans are strongly represented with Brazil regarded by every other country as the biggest obstacle to their own success, and Argentina and Uruguay "fancied" by several national team managers to reach the quarter-finals at least, whilst Chile themselves cannot be lightly regarded.

But football cannot live and flourish on the basis of national matches, even at World Cup level, and by the time this appears in print the new domestic season will be well under way throughout the continent. The time of the flood of "friendlies" has passed, although a trickle goes on forever in these countries that know of no closed football period. Argentina were the first to kick-off with their new League programme, a little earlier than usual so that a convenient stage, more or less half-way, can be reached before the League Championship is suspended immediately prior to the World Cup matches (writes **GORDON JEFFERY**).

LEAGUE

Before the League matches started there was a full week-end programme of friendlies between the clubs and it was interesting to cast an eye at River Plate's line-up for their warming-up match against Argentinos Juniors. River Plate are desperately anxious to regain some of their lost glory as the top club of Buenos Aires—and they may realise that the South American Champions Cup is showing signs of "catching on" in the same way that the European one has done and look forward to getting in on the act next year. Certainly they have been busy in the transfer market during the recess and, in the match against Argentinos Juniors, I see they included several of their new stars—Ditro (left-back), Sainz (right-half) and Pando (inside-right)—all from Argentinos Juniors; Cap (centre-half) from Huracan; Artime from Atlanta and Pagani from Rosario Central. Both Artime and Pagani are properly centre-forwards but River Plate left Artime to play the full ninety minutes as leader of the attack and brought Pagani on as substitute for Onega at inside-left.

The match, incidentally, was the best-attended of the pre-championship matches and ended in a two-one win for River Plate. Outside-right Delem opened the scoring for them, Sciarra equalised for Argentinos Juniors but midway through the second half Artime scored what proved to be the decisive goal. Thus encouraged, River Plate were off to a good start in the championship matches by beating Estudiantes de la Plate in the opening match. Not enough matches have yet been played, however, to glimpse more than a few straws in the wind so far as the final champions are concerned. The fixtures are in any case a little lop-sided in Argentina this year owing to the elimination from the League of Newell's Old Boys. The result is that there are only fifteen clubs in the First Division and the fixture-pattern each week is thus—seven matches and one club "resting". River Plate had their "day-off" after only one match.

SIGNIFICANT

One "straw in the wind" that may have significance is that last year's champions, Racing, have *lost* their two opening matches—to Rosario Central and to Gimnasia. Huracan, with wins over Velez Sarsfield and Atlanta, have made the best start. River Plate, incidentally, have made one other signing who did not play in their match against Argentinos Juniors — the outside-right, Mario Griguol, from Atlanta. Griguol should take the place of Domingo Perez who has returned to Uruguay (with Nacional) whilst Moacir has been transferred to Penarol.

RESUMING

Perez was soon resuming contact with old "enemies" on the playing field despite his return to Uruguay. This was in the match between Argentina and Uruguay played recently in Montevideo—the first Full International of 1962 for both countries. All Spring 1962 Internationals can be placed in three categories — those between countries not involved in the World Cup, those where one country is and one country is not involved, and those where both countries are involved. The results need to be accepted with degrees of caution that can be measured in relation to these categories. Argentina's line-up against Uruguay made it quite plain that they were seeking experience for some possible (rather remotely possible in some cases) players rather than giving their strongest eleven a trial. They called on thirty-one players in the course of the eight Full Internationals they played in 1961 but even so brought in additional players for the match against Uruguay—Mariotti of Chacarita Juniors at left-back, River Plate's new player Cap at left-half (the only R.P. player in the team).

Although outnumbered by Uruguayan forwards, the Czech goalkeeper Schroif makes a fine save. Czechoslovakia were the victors by a score of 3-1 in Prague recently. (Keystone 1.)

Abeledo of Independiente at inside-right and, the biggest surprise, Suarez, also of Independiente, at centre-forward. The full line-up at the beginning of the match for Argentina was: Roma; Navarro and Mariotti; Simeone, Rattin and Cap; Corbatta, Abeledo, Suarez, Sosa and Belen.

I wrote "at the beginning of the match" because some of the players did not last long after half-time. Rodriguez came on for Sosa after thirteen minutes' play in the second half; O. Rossi for Abeledo after nineteen minutes and, four minutes later, Calla for Suarez. Rossi played in most of the 1961 matches but Rodriguez and Calla are both triallists. The only defensive change was an enforced one—*two minutes from time*, when one would hardly have thought it worthwhile, bringing Paez on as replacement for the injured Rattin. Rattin's injury was the culmination of a series of ugly fouls (kicks in the main) by players on both sides.

NETTED

Abeledo had a good match for Argentina and netted their goal in the eighteenth minute when, after good play between Rattin and Cap in bringing the ball away from an Uruguayan attack, the inside-right eluded Emilio Alvarez at left-back for Uruguay, and hammered in a terrific shot that gave Sosa in Uruguay's goal little chance. Uruguay were generally disappointing and it was in keeping with the biteless nature of their forward play that the equaliser came from Emilio Alvarez. Alvarez himself had initiated an Uruguayan attack that had been carried on by Domingo Perez until Simeone conceded a corner. It was in the ensuing scramble that Alvarez saw his chance to slip the ball past a somewhat inactive Roma.

URUGUAY

Not a great match but of more concern to the Uruguayans than to Argentina. Last year Uruguay only narrowly qualified against Bolivia (1-1 and 2-1), won in Chile by the odd goal in five (faintly promising) but then at home lost to the Soviet Union (1-2) and drew with Hungary (1-1)—both disappointing results. Nor could they pretend that their eleven was experimental in the way that Argentina's was. With the exception of the Rampla Juniors left-half, P. Cubilla, it was a fairly familiar Penarol-Nacional line-up of Sosa; Troche and Alvarez (all Nacional); Eduardo Gonzalez, Nestor Goncalvez (both Penarol) and P. Cubilla; Domingo Perez, Bergera, Sasia, Douksas and Escalada—Sasia from Penarol and the other four forwards all from Nacional. Sosa was preferred in goal to either Maidana or Dogliotti who shared last year's matches. Perez was a return from "exile" and the rest, including De Souza who substituted for Nestor Goncalvez late in the game, had played in at least two of last year's five matches.

EUROPEAN

That Uruguay are far from happy can be seen in the players in their European tour party. There will be, I hope, enough space in a crowded International Post Mortem elsewhere in this issue to record the results of the completed tour. At the moment of writing only the first match has been played and that, before seventy thousand spectators at Hamburg, ended in an emphatic win for West Germany by three goals to nil. For this opening match of the tour, Uruguay retained in the original line-up Sosa, Troche, Eduardo Gonzalez, Goncalvez, P. Cubilla and Escalada of the team that played against Argentina in Montevideo—not all in the same position but I make little play with positional changes believing that if players are good enough to represent their country they should be able to play in more or less any position without loss of ability.

PENAROL

Of the changes — Alejandro Majewski (of Fenix) and Silva (of Danubio) made a slight breakthrough in the Penarol-Nacional set-up, but Cabrera, Luis Cubilla and Rocha are all of Penarol who thus supplied three of the forwards compared with Nacional's four against Argentina. Uruguay had kept substitutions to one against Argentina but made three—all in the forward line—against West Germany. Douksas came on for Rocha (a newcomer compared with last year) after only twenty-five minutes' play, Sasia played in the second half instead of Silva and another newcomer, Lacon, took over from Cabrera at centre-forward for the last fifteen minutes. Twenty-eight-year-old Majewski seemed the only new player likely to mature for the World Cup matches but the matches against Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union and Scotland will more deeply probe the strengths and weaknesses of Uruguay.

Argentina have also played a second match—at home against Mexico. Again a match between two World Cup countries: again a guarded approach. In the Post-Mortem I have dealt with this particular game.

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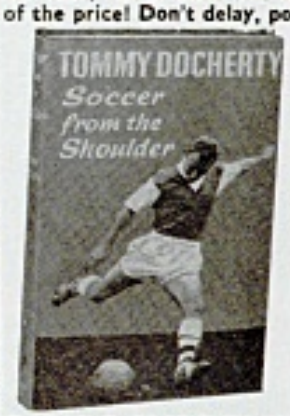

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ROGER MACDONALD puts an important soccer function into foc

"IT'S goals that count" is a far truer maxim of the World Cup than of any other competition. There are no away legs in which to pack one's goal; no goal averages in which points conceded are more significant than those acquired; and few opportunities for victory in Cup-tie breakaway style.

Consider this table:

Year	Country	Goals For	Goals Agst.	Goal Average
1930	1. Uruguay	15	3	5.000
	2. Argentina	18	9	2.000
	3. U.S.A.	7	6	1.167
	Yugoslavia	7	7	1.000
1934	1. Italy	12	3	4.000
	2. Czechoslovakia	9	6	1.500
	3. Germany	11	8	1.375
	4. Austria	7	7	1.000
1938	1. Italy	11	5	2.200
	2. Hungary	15	5	3.000
	3. Brazil	10	11	0.909
	4. Sweden	11	9	1.223
1950	1. Uruguay	15	5	3.000
	2. Brazil	22	6	3.607
	3. Sweden	11	15	0.734
	4. Spain	10	12	0.834
1954	1. W. Germany	25	14	1.786
	2. Hungary	27	9	3.000
	3. Austria	17	13	1.417
	4. Uruguay	15	9	1.778
1958	1. Brazil	16	4	4.000
	2. Sweden	12	7	1.714
	3. France	23	15	1.534
	4. W. Germany	12	14	0.857

It indicates strikingly that the teams with the best goal averages have invariably reached the World Cup Final — Uruguay (1930); Italy (1934); Hungary (1938 and 1954); Brazil (1950 and 1958). Significantly, the defeats of Brazil in 1950 and of Hungary four years later were the shock results of the competition, while Italy's victory over the Magyars in 1938 was one of "power over artistry"—now a rare occurrence in the World Championships. Notice, also, how outstanding Uruguay, Brazil and Hungary appear in this table, each combining a relatively ordinary defence with a devastating attack.

There is an emphasis of attack over defence among almost all the successful teams: only Czechoslovakia in 1934 and Italy's victorious eleven four years later scored so infrequently that their opponents' replies became of vital importance. In addition, only Yugoslavia and the United States (1930) and the same Czech side failed to reach double figures in the "Goals For" column—and the first pair played but two games in the preliminary rounds.

"It's goals that count"

A rating on goal average for each competition often finds the losing semi-finalists in a much lower position—the key to their success is once again the superiority in the number of goals they scored. In 1930 Brazil (five goals), Chile (five goals) and France (four goals) had better averages than the U.S.A. or Yugoslavia (seven goals), and in 1934 Spain and Hungary were similarly superior to Austria. Four years later Brazil finished third but could not even at an average of 1.000, while the Czech figure 1.607, and both France and Switzerland reac parity. After the war Yugoslavia, Italy and E land recorded better averages than Sweden Spain—possibly because of the latter tea tremendous opposition in the Final Pool— in 1954 Brazil were equally superior to Aus and Uruguay ... but scored only half as m goals. The most recent World Cup provides most striking example. West Germany beaten by no less than five countries in a average rating—Yugoslavia, Wales, Hung Czechoslovakia and England—but not one these five could manage ten or more goal reply to the Germans' dozen!

Positioning the sixteen Finalists according the goals they scored makes significant read First come France with twenty-three, and then Brazil with sixteen, followed by Swe and Germany twelve, Czechoslovakia and P guay nine, Yugoslavia and Hungary se Northern Ireland six, Russia and Argentina Wales, England and Scotland four, Austria and finally Mexico one. The unpredict Czechs and Paraguayans are clearly rated highly, but do not dismiss first place for Fra as absurd. Their attack was nearly on par Brazil's, and but for the injury to Jonquet in semi-final.... The Brazilian defence, of cou conceded only a handful of goals; but every will admit, looking at this rating, that Gr

WANTED

Four provided a poor test indeed!

The fact that Wales, England and Scotland scored four goals suggests that the respect defences modified the degrees of success failure. If Scotland, for example, had conce one less goal against both Paraguay and Fra they would have earned a play-off; and if W had kept the Mexican score sheet blank would have faced Brazil with John Charle centre-forward—as it was he received an inj in the play-off with Hungary.

But the key lies in England's failure: for third successive time they recorded a goal av age of 1.000 and for the third successive they flopped miserably. Again it could be that had England scored one more goal or c ceded one less they would not have quitted tournament. But while it would have scarc been reasonable to ask the defence to conc less than four goals, the attack certainly sho have scored many more.

Group Four in Sweden:	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst.
Brazil	3	2	1	0	5	0
U.S.S.R.	3	1	1	1	4	4
England	3	0	3	0	4	4
Austria	3	0	1	2	2	7

England were an unbeaten side after th games, but far from being a winning side Brazil and Russia had drawn their match E land would have been eliminated without los a game! For it is goal-scoring attacks, and

Bangu of Brazil played and defeated the Colom national team before 35,000 spectators in Colo recently. Our picture shows Helcie and Tito (in str shirts) of Bangu jumping for the ball with Gambo Colombia. (Planet 1.)

It is not often that one sees a goalkeeper scoring a goal but in our picture, Wormatia's 'keeper Radenkovic beats his opposite number with a cleverly taken penalty kick. This was small consolation for Radenkovic for he was beaten four times by the opposing forwards of Mainz 05! (Planet 1.)

: GOAL-SNATCHERS IN CHILE

cast-iron defences that count in the World Cup.

In the final reckoning, outstanding forwards can tilt the balance from defeat into victory: often one man has contributed the lion's share of his country's goals. Stabile scored eight goals out of eighteen for Argentina in 1930; Leonidas claimed all but two of Brazil's ten in 1938. And, more recently, Kocsis contributed eleven goals to the great Magyar total of twenty-seven, while Fontaine went two better for France in finding the net thirteen times out of twenty-three. None of these teams could have discarded their top scorer and confidently achieved a place among the best in the world.

The positions of World Cup goal-grabbers have always been evenly distributed: the leading scorers listed above include twelve centre-forwards, seven inside-rights, six outside-lefts, five inside-rights and four outside-rights. In the 1958 competition, which had a fairly typical rate of scoring, centre-forwards hit a total of twenty-eight goals, while players in other positions scored a correspondingly decreasing number: Inside-lefts twenty-four goals; outside-lefts twenty-four goals; inside-rights twenty-three goals; outside-lefts twenty goals; other players six goals; opponents one goal.

Only a few of the leading goalscorers in Sweden will appear again in Chile. Fontaine of France, McParland of Ireland and Simonsson of Sweden remain in the shadows; the German Rahn—twice a sharpshooter from the right-wing—and the Czech Zikan have given way to younger men; and Vava, Brazil's brilliant centre-forward, drew his wages in Madrid until this season.

A vital need

Those that are left—Pele, Tichy, and Seeler—have all been functioning as attacking centre-forwards. Significantly, this position still provides more goals than any other, and the need for a good centre-forward is vital.

How many of the Finalists have confidence in their man in the middle? To my reckoning, only seven—Brazil (Countinho); Germany (Seeler); Russia (Ponedelnik); Spain (Di Stefano); Hungary (Tichy); Italy (Altafini); and Czechoslovakia (Kucera or Kvasnak). Brazil's Countinho is equal to the best in the world at present, and failing him Brazil can switch Pele (who is outstanding in any position) or introduce any number of talented players. They can well spare Mazzola, renamed Altafini, to Italy, who have greedily snapped up a forward with a remarkable change of pace and an excellent shot. Spain look happy with Di Stefano in the centre, but the real strikers—Del Sol and Puskas or A. N. Other—are by no means as deadly as they should and must be.

Hungary have found a most versatile and effective player in Tichy, who scored ten goals for his country in 1961 and had another disallowed in the goal-less draw with Chile. And the return to form of his understudy, young Albert, makes Lajos Baroti's task pleasantly difficult . . . as it is for Czechoslovakia's Rudolf Vitlacil, who has in Kvasnak and Kucera two centre-forwards who can run and shoot with the best of them.

But the European stars in the number nine shirt are Seeler and Ponedelnik. Versatile, powerful and determined, they have the ability to take chances with deceptive ease and to make others where there appear to be none. Both are acrobatic—with Ponedelnik's agility seeming more in the Latin American style. His goal with an overhead "bicycle-kick" against Argentina, which brought a roar of applause from even the most partisan of crowds, was unsurpassed in its timing and power. Seeler concentrates on the more orthodox mid-air volley with boot, knee or head: his diving header has a fearful psychological effect when executed at incredible heights and angles.

The remaining competitors have no ready-made centre-forward, and as often as not this means that their attacks are ineffective also. A few players, such as Sanfilippo (Argentina)—whose brilliance is spoilt by his inconsistency—Sekularec (Yugoslavia), Haynes (England) and Sivori (Italy) may show their full potential in Chile, but the rest are submerged in a sea of mediocrity. The forwards of Bulgaria, Mexico and Argentina are even worse shots than England's—now the unhappy criterion of wasted chances for the rest of the world.

As miracles still occasionally happen, England might find goal-scoring form in Chile—if only Charlton and Greaves could transform themselves from a damp fuse into an explosive bomb. For it is performance and not potential that count in the World Cup, and England would have fared little worse in their last real test against Scotland if they had included Hancock and James of East Cheam United

A combination of history and statistics does not lie: a goal scored is, almost without exception, worth more than a goal prevented; good defence cannot win a World cup match, it can only keep it won.

Leading World Cup goal-scorers

1930

8—Stabile (Argentina); 5—Cea (Uruguay); 4—Subiabre (Chile).

1934

4—Schiavio (Italy), Nejedly (Czechoslovakia), Conen (Germany).

1938

8—Leonidas (Brazil); 7—Szengeller (Hungary); 5—Piola (Italy); 4—Colaussi (Italy), Willimowski (Poland), Sarosi (Hungary), Wetterstroem (Sweden).

1950

7—Ademir (Brazil); 5—Schiaffino (Uruguay), Basora (Spain); 4—Miguez (Uruguay), Ghiggia (Uruguay), Chico (Brazil), Zarra (Spain).

1954

11—Kocsis (Hungary); 6—Morlock (Germany), Probst (Austria); 5—Huegi (Switzerland); 4—Rahn (West Germany), Schaefer (West Germany), O. Walter (West Germany), Puskas (Hungary), Borges (Uruguay), Ballaman (Switzerland).

1958

13—Fontaine (France); 6—Pele (Brazil), Rahn (West Germany); 5—Vava (Brazil), McParland (Northern Ireland); 4—Simonsson (Sweden), Zikan (Czechoslovakia), Tichy (Hungary).

AROUND THE WORLD STORIES

Rosario annoyed

ARGENTINA
Hopes not high

THE 1-1 draw against Uruguay and a single goal win over Mexico have done little to improve the position of national team chief Lorenzo, or to give the public a much needed boost before the World Cup. The players, too, are lacking in confidence for many of the forty selected for training complain that Lorenzo has no intention of giving them a chance and they are wasting their time attending training sessions. Even the senior players aren't keen for Amadeo Carrizo (River Plate) refuses to be considered! A former team-mate of Di Stefano when he first played for River, Carrizo is rated the best 'keeper in South America, but all Lorenzo's efforts to persuade him to change his mind have failed.

The population of Rosario is up in arms over the failure of promoted Newell's Old Boys to claim their place in the national league. The High Court in Buenos Aires finally gave the League permission to start the competition without Newell's, and the series began a month late!

URUGUAY
South American Cup

NACIONAL, runners-up in the national league, have won through to the semi-final of the South American Clubs Cup, and with Penarol the holders given a bye to this stage, the Uruguayan hand is strong. Not so bright, however, are the World Cup prospects for while the Brazilians have a healthy respect for the "celeste" and perhaps fear them more than any other team bound for Chile the results of the European tour have been disappointing. In Chile, however, the party will be considerably stronger, for several players were refused permission to go to Europe, in case they attracted the attention of the top Italian clubs and received offers of better salaries than the Montevideo clubs can afford!

The Uruguayan League is an all Montevideo affair (ten clubs), and lacking a great enough population, there is a movement in favour of amalgamating with the top Buenos Aires clubs to form a super-league. Buenos Aires is only one hour away by jet, across the Rio Plata.

POLAND
Changing season

FOLLOWING the lead of East Germany, the Polish F.A. has decided to step into line with the majority of European countries, and starting in the autumn they will complete the league programme without a summer intervening. To make up the blank weeks of the spring, a special competition has been set up, fourteen clubs strong, who will play off in two groups of seven. The winners of each group will play off for the "spring" championship and the 1962-63 season will get under way in September. Relegation will not be operative during the special spring campaign.

Poland's international prestige took a surge upwards with their convincing 3-1 win over France in Paris. Inside-left Ernst Pohl once more proved the ace in the Polish pack, and scored their first goal! From Paris the touring party moved on to Casablanca where they beat Morocco, home and away conquerors of East Germany, by the same 3-1 margin!

AUSTRIA
Full-time soon?

THE OFB are considering a strongly backed proposal to introduce full-time professionalism next season. At present the top class Viennese players are poorly paid part-timers, and the leading clubs are aware that they are being left behind as the game develops.

Current League leaders are Linz ASK led by fifty times capped Yugoslav player-coach Tomislav Crnkovic. The big clubs, FK Austria, SC Rapid, First, do not like the idea of provincial clubs gaining the upper hand, and they are among the backers of the professional proposal to bring the limelight

The proud winners of the 1961-2 Italian Championship parade before a home game. Milan took the title from local rivals Inter-Milan and Fiorentina (from Florence). Milan had a five point lead over Inter while Fiorentina amassed seven points fewer than the champions. (Keystone 1.)

Russia confirmed their recent international form with a 2-0 win at the Rasunda Stadium, Stockholm, over the Swedish team. Our picture shows a situation in the Swedish goalmouth with Zamora Nyholm saving from Soviet forward Valentin Ivanov. (Planet 1.)

back to Vienna. Ernst Ocwirk, now with FK Austria after seven years in Italy with Sampdoria, has been offered a fat contract by the Genoa club who want him as trainer next season.

LUXEMBOURG

Popularity increasing

AFTER guiding his new club Union Luxembourg to the championship, English-born coach George Berry is poised to snatch the double. In the semi-final of the Cup, Union beat Stade Dudelinge 5-3, and their final opponents are Alliance who overcame Red Boys Differdange 6-1. At the end of ninety minutes the two teams were level at 1-1!

Though the gates at some league matches are still measured in hundreds, the game is increasing in popularity and quality. The top two or three teams have raised their level quite considerably and they can now rely on gates that compare favourably with the French first division, for example. Their failure in the World Cup, was regarded as a moral victory in tiny Luxembourg for they recorded their first ever win in the series (against Portugal), and the recent showing against the full Russian team in Luxembourg endorses the view that the game there is on the upgrade. Russia won only 3-1!

HOLLAND

Club punishment

FEIJENOORD'S refusal to release their players for the national team has brought an unexpected punishment on the club—suspension for everyone concerned for twelve months. The ban will not operate within Dutch football but only in the international sphere and this puts paid to Feijenoord's hopes of reappearing in the European Cup next season. Ajax and PSV have with the Rotterdam club had the loudest voice in domestic affairs in recent years, and they are hoping the F.A. will give the Europa Cup pass to the runners-up and this brought about a tremendous struggle when the two teams met recently in Amsterdam. Feijenoord top the list by a clear six points, but the others are still neck and neck.

Current regulations restrict each club to four full-time professionals and while many rumours are in circulation regarding illegal payments, and disguised professionalism the top teams are openly advocating revision of the rules. The KNVB, traditionally amateur, is still vigorously resisting, but if neighbouring Belgium makes the switch it is felt the Dutch will follow suit next season.

FRANCE

Reduction possible

WITH the top clubs collectively more than £1 million in debt, the F.F.F. would like to reduce the top-heavy national league. Sixteen clubs is their target with another sixteen in division two, but the necessary support will hardly be forthcoming at the A.G.M. All agree something must be done, but fearful that they will be among those axed, the majority resist the proposed changes!

With many former French colonies now holding or nearing independence, their players will in future be treated as foreigners as far as the League rules are concerned. Those already in France will not be affected, and many clubs hope their former players who returned to Algeria two years ago will come back. The slump in French international fortunes continues and Poland's win at the Parc des Princes brought another hail of criticism for selector Varriest. Claiming that France lacked class players he introduced two South Americans to the team against Poland—and one of those players overlooked was transferred the next day to Real Madrid! Lucky man is Lucien Muller, Reims international inside-forward or wing-half. The fee £40,000.

ITALY

Real boss joins

TORINO have confirmed the appointment of Emil Osterreicher, formerly with Honved and Real Madrid, as their Technical Director next season. A three-year contract at £12,500 a year (plus bonuses) was the bait used. The club are now set for a spending spree and top target is HSV centre-forward Uwe Seeler on whom they claimed to have an option a year ago. This appears to confirm that Joe Baker, now recovering from the effects of his motor accident will be transferred, and will perhaps return to Britain.

Other big transfers in the offing are that of Eusebio (Benfica) to Juventus for £230,000 and Madrid inside-right Del Sol to the same club! To make room for them under league rules which bar more than two foreigners, Denis Law, Cello and Rosato are set for a move to AS Roma at an all-in fee of £650,000. Though this is a stiff fee, Torino will need every lire, for Real insist that Del Sol will not move for less than one million dollars!

AC Milan are once more champions with a comfortable five point lead over Inter, 48 points, and Fiorentina, 46. Relegated to Serie "B" are Padova, Lecco and Udine, the last named having already signed Sweden's outside-left Lennart Backmann to help their come-back bid.

SPAIN

Expectation now

REAL Madrid's former captain and currently the entrenadore Miguel Munoz is upgraded to replace Emil Osterreicher and almost everyone in the game is being tipped for the vacant job at Chamartin. Most often mentioned names are Kubala, Herrera and Hidegkuti but so far Secretario Raimduno Saporta has refused to comment. The league campaign ended much as expected—Real, CFB, At. Madrid and Bilbao who started disastrously finally ended up in the top six as tradition demanded. Relegated are Tenerife after only one year and Real Sociedad, while Cordoba (for the first time) and Corunna take their places.

The top league scorers are once more all imported players—Seminario (Peru), twenty-five, Evaristo (Brazil) twenty, and Puskas (Hungary) twenty.

Now the Spanish F.A. is seeking official approval for an all star benefit match for Alfredo Di Stefano to be staged in the spring of 1963 when the former Argentinian star will have completed ten years at Chamartin. The idea is a Real v. Rest of Europe game in Madrid with the Rest being drawn from the clubs that have taken part in the European Cup.

RUMANIA

Home Youth win

BY defeating Yugoslavia 4-1 in the final, Rumania won the 1962 European Youth championships. Czechoslovakia finished in third place. In 1955 and 1956 Rumania were group winners when no overall finalist was decided.

U.S. INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

TWELVE doubleheaders in New York, six single games in three other cities, plus four play-offs—two featuring Dukla of Czechoslovakia, last year's winner of the American Challenge Cup—highlight the 1962 International Soccer League schedule.

A total of thirty regular season games will be played this summer as the league will be conducted in two six-team sections. Section One begins May 20 and runs to Saturday, June 16. Section Two begins July 1 and continues until July 29. All games in New York (six doubleheaders in each section) will be played in the ISL's new home, Randalls Island Stadium. A compact oval, Randalls Island comfortably seats 22,000 spectators, offers free parking for 7,000 cars and is conveniently located off the Triborough Bridge.

One of the highlights of the new schedule is its play-off arrangement which will provide a pair of two-game play-offs, one for the 1962 league championship and the other for the American Challenge Cup. The two sectional champions will compete for the 1962 title in a two-game set at Randalls Island, beginning with a twilight affair on Wednesday, August 1, and winding up Sunday afternoon, August 5. Total goals over the two-game series will decide the winner.

The league champions will then take on Dukla of Czechoslovakia for the American Challenge Cup. Dukla won the cup last year, defeating Everton of England in the play-offs with two awesome demonstrations of power soccer, 7-2 and 2-0. The first cup game will be held in Chicago on Wednesday night, August 8. The final and deciding game will be held Sunday, August 12, at Randalls Island.

All six teams entered in the first section will swing into action on opening day, Sunday, May 20. Four will take part in a doubleheader at Randalls Island and two will play in a single game at Guadalajara, Mexico. The latter is one of six out-of-town dates for the league this season. All will count in the standings. Four single night games (two in each section) will be played at Soldier's Field, Chicago, one of the nation's largest sports arenas. The final away game will be a Sunday-single in soccer-minded Chicopee, Mass., during the second section.

Both sections boast strong fields. Entered in the first section are America of Brazil, Dundee of Scotland, Guadalajara of Mexico, Hajduk of Yugoslavia, Palermo of Italy and Reutlingen of West Germany. In the second section are Belenenses of Portugal, Elfsborg of Sweden, M.T.K. of Hungary, Panathinaikos of Greece, the Wiener S.C. of Austria and Zaragosa of Spain.

The only open week-end on the schedule this season will be Saturday and Sunday, June 23 and 24. Current plans, consistent with the ISL's youth development programme, call for an invitation junior tournament, featuring outstanding boys' teams, as yet unannounced.

(At Randalls Island unless otherwise stated)

FIRST SECTION

Sunday, May 20

Reutlingen v. Dundee; Hajduk v. Palermo; America v. Guadalajara (at Guadalajara, Mexico).

Sunday, May 27

Palermo v. Guadalajara; Hajduk v. Reutlingen.

Wednesday, May 30

Reutlingen v. Guadalajara; Dundee v. Hajduk.

Friday, June 1

Palermo v. America (at Soldier's Field, Chicago).

Sunday, June 3

Guadalajara v. Dundee; America v. Hajduk.

Sunday, June 10

Reutlingen v. America; Dundee v. Palermo.

Friday, June 15

Guadalajara v. Hajduk (at Soldier's Field, Chicago).

Saturday, June 16

Palermo v. Reutlingen; Dundee v. America.

SECOND SECTION

Sunday, July 1

Wiener S.C. v. M.T.K.; Elfsborg v. Panathinaikos.

Wednesday, July 4

Zaragosa v. Elfsborg; M.T.K. v. Belenenses.

Friday, July 6

Panathinaikos v. Wiener S.C. (at Soldier's Field, Chicago).

Sunday, July 8

Elfsborg v. M.T.K.; Zaragosa v. Belenenses.

Sunday, July 15

M.T.K. v. Panathinaikos; Zaragosa v. Wiener S.C.; Elfsborg v. Belenenses (at Szot Park, Chicopee, Mass.).

Friday, July 20

M.T.K. v. Zaragosa (at Soldier's Field, Chicago).

Sunday, July 22

Panathinaikos v. Belenenses; Wiener S.C. v. Elfsborg.

Sunday, July 29

Zaragosa v. Panathinaikos; Belenenses v. Wiener S.C.

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS

Wednesday, August 1

First Leg: Section One Winner v. Section Two Winner.

Sunday, August 5

Second Leg: Section One Winner v. Section Two Winner.

AMERICAN CHALLENGE CUP

Wednesday, August 8

First Game: International League Champions of 1962 v. Dukla (1961 Champions) (at Soldier's Field, Chicago).

Sunday, August 12

Second Game: International League Champions of 1962 v. Dukla.

IRISH CLUBS' THOUGHTS ON NEXT YEAR'S EUROPEAN CUP

IRISH NEWS by COLIN McALPIN

AS you read this the Irish League will probably have been decided and the Cup will have settled at its new home. The season will have finished and you will have only your memories—good and bad—left to tide you through the summer. As I write, however, four clubs are still seeking that championship and a good money-draw in the European Cup. I still think Linfield—they slipped slightly recently but should get bang into form—will be at it again. Then again, do not completely rule out Portadown for they are still up with the leaders who include Ards and Ballymena. As I said before, Ballymena don't seem the likely European Cup representatives of Northern Ireland, neither do Ards. I'll take a risk and say that when it is all over Linfield will have won the League.

This sort of task is a shade trying at times for it is always a risk trying to see ahead a few weeks to the eventual winners. By the time this reaches you all will be over . . . but remember the race was still on when I wrote.

Battlefields

As to the Cup, this too will have been won and lost by the time you buy your WORLD SOCCER in the middle of May. Portadown and Linfield will have fought it out on the battlefields of Ulster. It promises to be a great game and (again my brain is trying to be a time machine) I fancy Linfield should add this one to their many others collected during the past season.

From looking into the future let us turn to looking at the past and present. The International team to meet Wales set me to thinking about the "One Cap internationals" who abound in Northern Ireland football. There are quite a few of them . . . players who were given one cap and then tossed aside. Jones, Dickson, Bruce, Coyle, Hunter, Stewart . . . and I'm sure there are others.

Persist

Are the selectors being fair to the Irish League players when they persist in this method? Take for instance Victor Hunter of Coleraine. He was not by any means the greatest goalkeeper ever to play for us at Wembley but he certainly does not deserve the treatment he is getting now. One cap and that's your lot. He should be given at least another chance and so should all the others have been given another chance. Frankly it is not right or fair to pick a lad and then say to him, "Okay son, you have got your cap now don't bother us again". I only hope Linfield's Bobby Braithwaite doesn't join his "One Cap" pal Hubert Barr.

Representative

Our representative teams—the Irish League—have got two recent wins to boast about and it shows, in some small way, that we can do it. They were not great classic games—we don't play them any more in Ulster—but it left the fans feeling that perhaps life was worth living after all.

Italians

We smashed the Italian League (so what if they were not full of Laws, Bakers and Charles?) and we smashed the League of Ireland. Nothing to get excited about I suppose, but we win so seldom these days that any victory is worth something. As one wag said after our Italian win (so what if their players did come from the lower divisions), "Now for the Brazilians and Real Madrid." Well. . . ?

NOT WHISTLE HAPPY

Continued from page 16

I thought his views, as both a schoolmaster and a soccer enthusiast, on the entry of a youngster into the game now that wage rates were higher, important.

"I would still recommend a parent to put his boy through University if his academic qualifications were sound and hope that he would pick up his football skill in good class amateur soccer."

I said I had the impression more schools were turning to rugby from soccer because parents thought rugby was an O.K. game whereas there was still something of the cloth cap era hanging around soccer. It brought something of a grin to his face.

"You can keep more boys amused playing rugby at school than you can with soccer, thirty in a rugby game, twenty-two at soccer. Remember, Wales still provides us with large numbers of school teachers and you know what the Welsh are about rugby. More important, though, if a boy is going to make it in soccer, I believe he knows it when he is about twelve, he either knows he is good or not at that age. In rugby a boy runs about a certain amount more, throws himself into the mauls, brings a few men down and feels he has had a thoroughly good time."

"Even referees get asked for their autographs," he said as he showed me a letter from a youngster who said Mr. Aston was the best referee he had ever seen. I had never thought about referees getting fan-mail before. I understand it now, that and a great many other things.

He left me to rush off to a floodlit youth game with his son (still at school and plays soccer, of course). I vowed never to complain about referees again, for at least he had a good effect upon ME.

Early season start seems to have suited the Swedes

EGON JONSSON REPORTS FROM SWEDEN

THE Swedish soccer season began much earlier this year and in an unusual way —with a full international match played before the start of the national league programme. Only a few friendly matches between the first division clubs and clubs from the minor leagues have not yet been played, so this international was a real test for Sweden's best players.

The national "A" team beat Czechoslovakia 3-1 in Gothenburg (Ullevi Stadium, where England played Brazil in the World Cup four years ago).

This Gothenburg match was the seventh between Sweden and Czechoslovakia. Previous results:

1921 Nov. 13 Prague: Czechoslovakia 2, Sweden 2
1922 Aug. 13 Stockholm: Czechoslovakia 2, Sweden 0
1926 June 16 Stockholm: Czechoslovakia 2, Sweden 2
1926 July 3 Prague: Czechoslovakia 4, Sweden 2
1938 Aug. 7 Stockholm: Czechoslovakia 6, Sweden 2
1961 Mar. 23 Prague: Czechoslovakia 2, Sweden 1

The only "B" match was played in 1961 at Liberec, Czechoslovakia, where the Swedes won 1-0.

This year the Swedish national team will play eight "A" internationals. Following the game against Czechoslovakia in Gothenburg home matches have been played v. U.S.S.R. in Stockholm and will be played against Denmark in Stockholm on October 28. Norway are due in Gothenburg on November 4 for the European Nations Cup. Four away matches will be played: v. Finland in Helsinki on June 19, v. Norway in Oslo on June 21 in the European Nations Cup, v. Norway in Oslo on September 16, and on November 11 v. a country from middle or south Europe. Perhaps the national team will also tour the Far East in November and December.

Champions

Elfsborg from Boras, Swedish champions last year, will play in the International Soccer League in New York this summer. The club also hopes to play in the European Champions Cup next season. The best team after the spring season will represent Sweden. Last year IFK Gothenburg were knocked out in the first round.

Norrkopping will soon have a fine floodlighting arena. The local club, IFK, well known in England after the tour in 1946, has contacted some English clubs for the opening match.

Arsenal are due in Gothenburg to meet a selected team from the three best clubs of the town. One match in Copenhagen and one in Odense (Denmark) will also be played on this tour.

Scottish Cup semi-final and Motherwell defender Matt Thomson clears a goal bound shot from Rangers centre-forward Max Murray. Rangers won 3-1 and progressed into yet another Scottish Cup final. (Planet 1.)

SYRIAN SOCCER IS AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY AS YET

● Ing. B. Nemecek, Hon. International Secretary of the Spartak Prague Sokolovo club of Czechoslovakia, reveals to WORLD SOCCER the interesting details he acquired during his club's recent visit to Syria and Greece.

HAVING received an invitation from the Syrian Army, our team visited the Republic of Syria two months ago. So we had the chance of becoming acquainted with the organisation of football in this—in relation to football—unknown country. I had the best information available from the chief manager of Army Sports in Syria, Mr. Mohammed Moussali, as well as from the Hungarian coach/trainer, Mr. Miklos Vadas.

Mr. Moussali is a man of thirty-five years, full of enthusiasm for the development of different sports in his native country, and especially football. He has considerable influence in the highest circles of Syria and can really be the man who will bring further progress to the local game.

Mr. Vadas, years ago one of the best Hungarian players as a member of the world famous club Ferencvaros Budapest, was, after leaving Hungary, engaged as a professional player in the U.S.A., France, Switzerland, etc. Ending his career as a professional he coached different European clubs and was also the trainer of the Hungarian national team.

An offer from Syria influenced him to go there and stay just four years as the employee of the Syrian Football Federation and of the Syrian Army Sports.

Difficult start

Mr. Vadas started four years ago with his difficult task. First he travelled through the country and visited all eight regions to look at the situation of Syrian football directly on the spot. The development of football in Syria at this time went without special governmental or central organisation. Returning from his tour, Mr. Vadas prepared and organised the first real championship of the whole of Syria which started late in 1960. Eight clubs took part in it. There were two clubs from Damas, the capital, namely the Barada Club—Barada is the river flowing through Damas—and the Damascus Club; a further two clubs from the town of Aleppo situated on the north of the country—Aleppo known further as Haleb—namely the Syrian Club or Suri Club and Haleb Club or Achlichaleb Club. The remaining clubs were the representatives of other towns or districts as Vahdi Homs and Omayat Hamma—both towns on the route from Damas to Aleppo—Gaziderzor Club and Club Latakier—the port on the west of the country. The first champions of Syria came from the Damascus Club, one of the best eight clubs of the country.

But there was another club namely the Army Club of Damascus, which was the best in Syria. This club played only friendly games with Syrian or foreign clubs. During our stay there, the preparations for a new championship were made with justified optimism.

At present the whole country competes in the Cup of Syria. It is organised in each district and the winner plays the winner of each other district together in a special Cup and the overall winner joins the Syrian championship, as well as the eight clubs from the first championship and the Army club. These ten clubs take part in the second championship which in the future continues regularly without any further complication!

Grounds, spectators, tickets

The best ground in Damas belongs to the capital "Stade Municipale" and has a capacity of 25,000 spectators. Its grass surface is well worn. Another stadium, Mazra, has a grass ground too, but accommodation for the spectators is not yet finished but should take about 25,000 spectators. The best stadium which will be the centre of other sports grounds, too, is now in construction, and the space for spectators will have the possibility to accept a bigger crowd of 30,000 persons. This stadium, known as Stadium Zablatani, has a surface made of red antuca.

One quarter of an hour from the city a large centre of Army Sports is being constructed. This will contain two training grounds for football, a big stadium for 40,000 spectators also for football, a hall for basketball, another for volleyball, a special pool for swimming, etc. This centre has to be finished shortly. Many buildings of this centre are just finished.

The entrance tickets in Syria are sold for 2·3 Syrian pounds. 3.60 Syrian pounds are equivalent to 1 U.S.A. dollar. The places for standing cost 1 Syrian pound. An extra

They are agile these Greeks! Two Athenian teams Heracles and Niki disputed this match and produced this feat of acrobatics. The Czech team referred to in this story met up with some of these antics while on tour. (Keystone 1.)

price is always made for soldiers and students, only for 0,25 Syrian pound = 25 piasters. The interest of the public for football is comparatively good. We played three games in Damas, in the first a crowd of 15,000 was present, and the further two games, played unfortunately in rainy weather, were visited by about 10,000 spectators each. The same crowd was present during the game we played in Aleppo or Haleb as the fourth game of our tour in Syria.

Promising future

Writing about the *niveau* of the Syrian football, I must mention first the best team —the Army team. The work of the Hungarian coach, Mr. Vadas, has had its influence. Each of the players is well prepared from the technical point of view, as well as from the physical side. The players are fast, they play with an unlimited enthusiasm but I would say without much experience.

On the other hand they are not afraid to play hard, and take risks. This style is not pleasant for the European teams. For example Malmö F.F. had considerable difficulties.

I am sure that in a relatively short time the situation will improve. Syrian clubs will have the opportunity for more meetings with different foreign clubs and the well organised championship will bring other experiences. During our visit we noted two of the players who were of a good quality—the goalkeeper of The Army club—Maruan Dardari and the centre-forward Ibrahim. All the players are part-time professionals.

It was a surprise in the country that our team after beating the Army Club 4-1, the best selection of the players of the civil clubs in Damascus — a combination of Barada Club and Damascus Club—4-2 and the selection of Syria—combination of the Army club and the best civilian clubs' players—3-1, drew only 1-1 with the selection of Aleppo. Why?—the coach of Aleppo, Mr. Yervant Ohanessian, attended a course for trainers in Czechoslovakia and also travelled in other European countries to gain more experience in football.

He surprised us and especially our players with prepared tactics, using a good "Riegel system". By the way—in comparison with our teams, the same of Aleppo was the weakest one.

The government, the Army and the civil organisations are very interested in the development of football in the Syrian republic. They employ all kinds of propaganda sources such as television, radio, film and newspapers to popularise it. The young people are interested, too. As this tempo continues we may hear about a new country in football, the Republic of Syria.

Progress in Greece

The second country we visited during our tour at the beginning of this year was Greece, the country with a splendid history —Greece is a country where football for the people has the same value as bread. The championship is organised there in a way well known in other European countries. Fourteen clubs, most of them of Athens or the neighbourhood, others from Saloniki and the remaining clubs of the country towns such as Volos, Drama, etc., form the First Division. The best clubs of the country are AEK, Apollon, Panathinaikos and Olympiakos, all from the capital Athens. Three of them are organised in a football trust—AEK, Panathinaikos and Olympiakos. This trust has the best financial position in Greece and I may say that the trust organises all the international games.

Spartak Prague Sokolovo were held to a 1-1 draw against a selection drawn from Aleppo. This photograph shows an action from the match in question. Its implications are mentioned in the accompanying text. (O.)

In the last three years a new club has risen to the Olympus of this trust. It is the G.C. Apollon, Athens club. There is a speciality about it. The club was founded in Smyrna in Turkey in the year 1891. At this time a huge crowd of Greeks lived in this town. After the year 1920 when the political influences changed with the arrival of Kemal Atatürk, the supporters and officials of this club returned to Greece and the club exists in Athens till today. The club boasts a fine stadium with a grass pitch and a capacity for about 25,000 persons with the intention to enlarge by 1963 to 30-40,000. The team plays good football and lies in second place of the Championship. These results and especially the system of play used is due to the work of a Hungarian coach, Andras Dolgos, formerly a player with Szombathely.

Their play is more technical without the use of force and hardness. The other best clubs in Greece produce another type of football more inclining to the English way, surely the influence of the English coaches working there some time ago, but with more temperament and more exciting kinds of devotion and effort.

It is not surprising to see some players after the end of a game leave the ground, crying for example, in order to express their deception of the result of the game.

The Greeks incline further to an ability to show the public on each occasion an element of acrobatics. Without taking in view these elements—much loved by the spectators—Greek football is growing better and better. I may make such a comparison, because our team played there five years ago, too. The growing *niveau* is remarkable but it has to be followed by intensified international relations with different countries, not only on a friendly level but in some competitions.

As mentioned the ground of Apollon is in excellent condition as is the new stadium of Panathinaikos housing 40,000 spectators. FC Santos played there and lost. Olympiakos' ground is for 30,000 spectators, but the pitch is without grass, a real sand ground.

Entrance tickets are for 20-30 drachmes normally, in special cases like international matches more. (30 drachmes = 1 U.S.A. dollar). League games are well supported, more than games with foreign clubs. The fans show immense temperament. They use each free minute for discussing the problems of their club, about the last game and about the chances they have for the next one.

The newspapers give generous cover to football, with all particulars and with such a richness of fantastic imagination I have never seen in another country.

Concerning training, the players used to have it three times or more in a week, with sufficient intensity for ninety minutes. At GC Apollon, the players have to come to the stadium the day before the match and they sleep there and under the direction of their coach make the last preparations for the coming game. The players are part-time professionals.

Conclusions on Greek football are promising. When the Greek Federation of football and the management of the trust arrange for the leading clubs to take more part in different international cups and for the national team to measure its forces with stronger opposition, this fact would surely help the further development of the Greek game.

In a pre-World Cup try-out the Czech national team played LASK Linz the Austrian side. The Czechs won 2-0 and here Pospichal and Kacani (white shirts) challenge the Austrian goalkeeper Kitzmuller. (Keystone 1.)

BRAZIL — ONLY FAVOURITES — *Continued from page 13*

handed he is not the man to direct the attack. It seems likely that the Italians themselves will come round to this way of thinking, and probably choose the young Milan inside-left Rivera, but whether he is experienced enough is another matter. In defence they should be as well served as any; in attack they have speed and punch but in midfield they are likely to fail, for after importing inside-forwards by the dozen for the last fifteen years there is barely a handful of Italian-born players in this position above second class!

By now it must be widely accepted that West Germany's biggest asset is their team chief Sepp Herberger. He has been building his team for four years and though he too lacks an outstanding inside-forward I expect them to do well. A year ago West Germany were beaten 3-1 by Chile in Santiago but knowing Herberger I have no doubt at all that he pulled several of his punches at that time, and will reverse the result in June.

Marshalled

The defence is young and tough, and capably marshalled by the experienced Erhardt, and in Uwe Seeler, Germany has one of the world's best spearhead centre-forwards. Though lacking a really outstanding inside-forward this loophole is largely made up by the combined efforts of Brulls and Haller in midfield and if the big left-half Szymaniak is released as promised by his Italian club Catania all could be well.

Herberger's only real problem is at outside-right, but the improved form of Geiger has greatly eased his worries on this score and with the experienced Richard Kress also available the position has almost ceased to be a headache. The Germans will probably not provide much classic football, but they will be among the fittest in Chile and will be a handful for any team. Rough, tough and hard-hitting, I believe they could reach the final.

The Swiss are the poor relations in this group—surprising even themselves that they qualified. No one but team manager Karl Rappan ever really believed they could beat Sweden in the qualifying round, and having achieved the impossible already many people may be tempted to think they can go further. Personally I do not believe it!

Their playing system demands above all superb fitness, and if Rappan has his way they will certainly be fit. This, however, is less than half the battle for though spirit and stamina are important they are no substitute for skill. Talented players can save themselves considerable running about, and highly skilled ball players can force their opponents to chase merely by pushing the ball around in midfield. Schneiter, Meier, Grobety and Tacchella will run themselves into the ground if necessary but they lack the craft to do well.

The most talented players are the inside-forwards Eschmann and Pottier now playing as professionals in France; the most experienced, outside-right Charly Antenen at outside-right, and the spearhead Servette discovery Wuthrich is the only man of real power and he lacks experience!

Chile are a far better bet than Switzerland though if the venue was to be reversed I would take the Swiss any time, but they, too, lack real experience. Their team is young and workmanlike but they are also relatively inexperienced. True many of their players came to Europe two years ago, and while it can be accepted that they are much improved since then I doubt if they will be happy against a really tough and well drilled defence such as Germany will provide.

They clearly showed their limitations at the end of last year when beaten at home by Uruguay for although well on top throughout the match they lost 3-2. The Uruguayans were forced on to the defensive, and while they were prepared to pack their defence and

Russia — Uruguay —

take the pressure until an opportunity to counter-attack presented itself, the Chileans threw everything into attack and so exposed their goal when the Uruguayans did break away, that 'keeper Escuti had practically no chance with the shots that beat him, and had little else to do but retrieve the ball on the three occasions it was put past him. The key men here are centre-half Raul Sanchez and the inside-men Fouilloux and Toro.

Santiago

From Santiago I expect West Germany and Chile to go on, with perhaps Italy more likely to cause an upset to any Chilean plans than Switzerland.

Santiago teams:

Chile: Escuti; Eyzaguirre, Navarro; Contreras, Sanchez, Rojas; Moreno, Toro, Landa, Fouilloux, Ramirez.

West Germany: Tilkowski; Nowak, Schnellinger; Giessemann, Erhardt, Szymaniak; Geiger (or Kress), Haller (or Brulls), Seeler, Herrmann (or Haller), Brulls (or Dorfel).

Italy: Buffon; Maldini, Castellatti; Bolchi, Salvadore, Trapattoni; Mora, Maschio, Altafini, Sivori (or Rivera), Corso.

Switzerland: Elsener; Schneiter, Morf; Grobety, Meier, Tacchella; Antenan, Eschmann, Wuthrich, Pottier, Alleman.

The Vina del Mar Group is another difficult to forecast. Brazil should certainly take first place but the issue between Czechoslovakia and Spain lies in the balance and should be a keenly fought affair. Brazil I propose to leave until summing up at the end, and Mexico are yet another of the teams in to make up the number and not even serious challengers for a quarter-final place. More than that, I will even be surprised if they get one point!

In England last year the Mexicans received one of their biggest ever defeats, yet though the eight goals they conceded that day were justified on the balance of play they are not quite as poor as they seemed then. For one thing seventy-five times capped goalkeeper-captain Antonio Carbajal will be in goal, and in addition it seems probable that their officials will choose the sensible approach and play defensively. This will probably rule out their slender hopes of further progress, but at least it will enable them to preserve their dignity.

Period

Spain, of course, have known only one brief period of success in the international arena during the years since the war—the eighteen months when Helenio Herrera was the trainer. Never before or since have the stars of Real Madrid and Barcelona been able to reproduce the form they show for their clubs, and by a fortunate chance Herrera is once more back with the Spaniards. If only for this reason I feel the Spaniards have a chance and certainly they have the players to measure up to the conditions I set out in the beginning. They have craft and skill, speed and punch and a ready made cast iron defence at Real Madrid if the responsible official has the courage to use it. This is doubtful for Spaniards would be highly critical of anyone who fielded the

W. Germany—Chile—Brazil—Czechs—England—Hungary—Last 8!

Madrid side *en bloc* as I would do, but perhaps Herrera will be able to exert some influence on this matter.

The key to Spanish fortunes depends upon the inside-left chosen and while it would be morally wrong to include the former Hungarian captain Puskas they would be well advised to do so. The full-backs, too, present a problem for neither of the Atletico Madrid pair, Rivilla or Calleja, have measured up to the necessary standard and I personally would much prefer Casado and Miera. Two sound backs and a goal-getting inside-left could put Spain among the top favourites but I doubt if they have the courage to take the right decisions and make it an all Real matter, and in that case they will probably fail.

The Czechs are one of Europe's most improved teams with a sound defence dominated by Dukla and a purposeful if rather slow-moving attack. Much depends on their two main scorers, Kvasniak and Kucera, and their fitness. They were both in need of operations at the end of 1961, Kvasniak has had his, and Kucera will wait until after the Chile trip for his operation.

Masopust

Czech hopes depend on the wing-halves, Pluskal and Masopust, and the sharpshooting of Kvasniak and Kucera, and while Spain have too many ifs surrounding them I rate the Czech team most likely to pass on with Brazil. For them the draw has one consolation. If they reach the quarter-final, they will not be drawn with Brazil until the final on June 17 and at their best the Czechs could match anyone else in the series.

The Vina del Mar teams:

Brazil: Gilmar; Maurinho, Nilton Santos; Zito, Bellini (or Djalma), Calvet; Garrincha, Didi, Coutinho, Pele, Pepe.

Czechoslovakia: Schroif; Hledik, Novak; Pluskal, Popluhar, Masopust; Pospichal, Scherer, Kvasniak, Kucera, Jelinek.

Spain: Araquistain; Casado, Calleja (or Pachin); Vidal (or Zoco), Santamaria, Gensana, Aguirre (or Tejada), Del Sol, Di Stefano, Peiro (or Puskas), Gento (or Collar).

Mexico: Carbajal; Chaires, Villegas; Fafan, Sepulveda, Najera; Del Aguila, Reyes, Lara, Ortiz, Peniche.

This leaves Group IV, in which England, Argentina and Hungary appear more or less equally matched with Bulgaria lacking in experience against even such comparative outsiders, and unlikely to make any further progress. Ivan Kolev is, of course, their key man providing the strategy and also roughly half the goals the team scores. Two more of his stature and the outlook for Bulgaria would be considerably brighter but as it is, they are likely to find themselves outpaced and outpunched. Like the Swiss they probably did not expect to qualify, and just how far they have so far lagged behind is illustrated by the fact that in Chile, Bulgaria will be meeting England and Argentina for the first time. Hungary will not be complete strangers yet against them the Bulgarians have won only one match in eleven previous meetings.

The Hungarians are not, of course, the world class power they once were, but they are still capable of a good performance, and their strongly knit defence and workmanlike attack should carry them through to the quarter-finals. Much depends on the ability of their inside-forward trio, Gorocs, Albert and Tichy, and the regularity with which they can find their way to goal. They, like Russia, must have benefited from their winter trip to South America, but it should be understood that while the team has remained virtually unchanged for three seasons their young stars have not really developed as might have been expected. One new name to watch for, right-half Erno Solymosi, an attacking player of considerable potential who also scores goals!

For England, the World Cup may have come twelve months too late, for they now appear to have lost some of the appetite for goals they maintained throughout the 1960-61 season. The approach play even at that time left much to be desired, but even their most ardent critics must concede that they knew the way to goal. If Greaves and Hitchens are included together they could still recover the bite that made them a team to watch, but they have so often promised much and given little in the World Cup that it would be unwise to take them as strong candidates. The rearguard is sound, the attack could be dangerous in front of goal, and the missing link that could perhaps change them overnight into a really formidable combination is their utter failure to find what the Brazilians call a *meia de Ligacao*. There is only one inside-forward I know in English football capable of fulfilling this demanding role—and unhappily he is an Irishman! In the Rancagua group, Argentina are the unknown quantity for they have a deep well of talent from which to draw and one feels that if used wisely they could rise to the top of the class. At the same time it must be conceded that the probabilities lay stacked against this, and if they fail again as they did in Sweden few people will be surprised. Almost the entire team is in the melting pot and while the final selection will probably be a blend of youth and experience the younger players have little knowledge of the European game, and the old guard's attitude is summed up by their number one goalkeeper Carrizo, who says he has nothing to gain and everything to lose in Chile, and he would rather not play!

Sanfillipo

Delgado, Oscar Rossi and Sanfillipo are three men likely to acquit themselves well and if others can be found to match their skill and determination, Argentina could create a surprise.

Likely teams:

England: Springett; Armfield, Wilson; Robson, Swan, Flowers; Connelly (or Douglas), Greaves, Smith (or Hitchens), Haynes, Charlton.

Bulgaria: Naidenov; Rakarov, Metodiev; Dimov, Dimitrov, Kovatchev; Diev, Iliev, Yakimov, Kolev, Debarski.

Hungary: Grosics; Matrai, Sarosi (or Sovari); Solymosi, Sipos, Meszoly; Sandor,

Continued on page 32

The Austrians must be annoyed at their decision to stay out of the 1962 World Cup competition in view of their recent successes, but their first two matches in 1962 brought defeats. Here Ray Crawford (England) tries to force home a shot in the match the Austrians lost 3-1 at Wembley. (Central 1.)

Czech wing-half Josef Masopust is known as the "motor" of the international side and also his club team Dukla Prague. His story is told on this page by Eric Batty who considers him to be one of the finest in the game. (O.)

Masopust—one of the modern masters

ONE of the best wing-halves in European football today is Josef Masopust of Dukla Prague and Czechoslovakia. Roaming unceasingly in search of the ball, his role is not unlike that of the old-time attacking centre-half, and though not a big player physically, he ploughs up and down continuously. Prodding the ball forward from midfield to a well-placed colleague he immediately follows his pass, backing up in case the attack should run into trouble and then calling for a short back pass he can change the direction of attack.

So strong are the attacking tendencies in his play that he often finds himself in front of the other forwards, and while this sometimes does leave dangerous gaps in his own defence he more than balances his account by contributing the odd goal or two, and somehow when he does score it is often on a day when his side needs a goal most.

Evidence

This was never more in evidence than during the autumn of 1958 when the Czechs national team went through a lean period. A few months earlier in Sweden they hammered Argentina 6-1, but in the next six games played that winter the Czechs were able to manage only seven goals. Losing 2-1 to Russia, 1-0 to Bulgaria and 1-0 to Turkey, Masopust chipped in with a vital goal against Italy that earned a 1-1 draw and was the only Czech scorer in the match against Russia.

Unless his side are really being hard pressed, Masopust's part in the defensive scheme is more like that of an inside-forward than the generally accepted wing-half. Under pressure he comes back to play just in front of the centre-half but when things go well he is usually content to drop back to a point where he can be easily found once his team-mates gain possession. Novak, the Dukla captain who has played with Masopust several hundred times, is particularly skilled at this and invariably his clearances are twenty yard passes to the feet of Masopust. Once in possession the "motor" eases into top gear and another attack gets smoothly under way.

This comparison with the loose inside-forward is not perhaps out of place, for it was only in 1955 that Masopust was converted into a wing-half by the Dukla coach at that time Karel Kolsky, and with his previous club, Tatran Teplice, he was never anything but an inside-right.

Now thirty-one years old, Masopust was born at Most, a small industrial town in North Bohemia, on February 9, 1931, and has been with Dukla Praha since 1952. Today he lives in a flat not more than three hundred yards from the Dukla Stadium with his wife Vera (twenty-seven) and his two children, Tony (six) and Ivana (two).

Like all the Dukla players, Masopust is in the Czech Army with the rank of captain. Attached to what is perhaps best described as the Army Physical Training Corps, Masopust's job is to train several small Army teams and once his personal training stint with Dukla is over he becomes the "boss".

Morning

In a normal week when only one match is to be played the Dukla players train in four early morning sessions and being an Army club they retain a relaxed form of Army discipline. When I watched one of these sessions, the players trooped out as they changed and began loosening up, and then when the club coach appeared Masopust as the senior "man" with Novak unfit to train called the players to attention, lined them up and handed over to Jaroslav Vejvoda with a smart salute!

With Dukla and Czechoslovakia, Masopust has travelled the world playing in almost every major football country and taking part in all the important international tournaments from the World Cup and European Cup to many lesser events. Among the successes with which Masopust has been associated are the winning of the Czech championship in 1953, 1956, 1958 and 1961 and the New York Summer League trophy last year. On the international front he helped his country to third place in the first ever European Nations' Cup in 1960, and perhaps the biggest Czech success of all—the winning of the Central European Championship (Dr. Gero Cup) which was competed for between 1953 and 1959 when the great Hungarian was at or near its peak! All told, Masopust has represented Czechoslovakia in forty-two full internationals—and for the future? First he would like to take his personal record up to the half century, and (with his tongue in his cheek) "to play in the World Cup Final against Brazil".

Much Longer

Knowing Masopust to be thirty-one I asked him how much longer he hoped to go on playing in the top class. At that, he grinned, "Many people say that thirty is too old, but today more and more players are going on well past thirty. In any case I was washed up two years ago. Too old and too slow they said—but I'm still here, and I'd like to play until I'm thirty-five."

Goals, says Masopust, are the thing in football. You remember them long after the rest of the game has been forgotten. Going back over his career, he recalled many outstanding goals and players and picked out from the host of outstanding stars he has faced, Pele (Brazil), Edwards (England) and the Hungarian trio Puskas, Kocsis and Hidegkuti. Matthews and Di Stefano also must be good, he said, "but I've never seen them except on television".

ERIC BATTY

WINTERBOTTOM HAS HIS CHILE PROBLEMS TO SOLVE

AN ENGLAND FOCUS

by BRIAN MARSHALL

FOLLOWING his brief visit to South America in the early part of this year, it is the considered opinion of Walter Winterbottom, England's team-manager and F.A. director of coaching, that individually the South Americans are vastly superior to us but at club level we would easily outpace them.

This fact is not all that surprising as Winterbottom himself pointed out. In most countries, even in Europe, the best players are usually to be found with the two leading clubs. The other teams are used as a nursery —in the most extreme sense.

But as we are currently concerned with World Cup topics, it is all the more imperative that our chances be put under the microscope. From my own impressions of England's current play, it is obvious to me that once again we shall be forced to improvise with the talent at Winterbottom's disposal.

The exclusion of Bobby Robson, West Bromwich Albion's attacking wing-half, from England's side against Austria and Scotland and also his non-appearance against the Scottish League, points to a change of policy, which, I believe stems from Winterbottom's South American visit.

Tossed overboard are the 4-2-4 plans for success. They worked brilliantly eighteen months ago but now movements successfully engineered during this spell will be cleverly transplanted into the now pronounced defensive line-up, which is currently the rage of South America.

Illustrated

England's attack will rely upon speedy wing-men as is illustrated by the selection of John Connelly (Burnley) and Bobby Charlton (Manchester United). The plan, I think, will be for the snap break-aways down the wings which could cause chaos to the South Americans.

Such a scheme worked with unbelievable success for Russia on their short tour and Winterbottom now has ambitions to incorporate the two plans in his line-up in Chile.

Acclaimed the world's top soccer theorist, Winterbottom knows that he must have the men for the job. In Johnny Haynes he has the man around whom all our hopes lie. As the season closed in England, it was a consoling thought to see the Fulham and England skipper was back at his personal best.

Noted for his defensive skill, Haynes will be called upon to play an even more important role in this new line-up.

While Winterbottom does not entirely agree with the new set-up and is concerned with the ultimate effect upon the game in general, he is wise enough to realise that if England is to stand any chance at all in Chile they must adopt a plan which will bring about some success following our failing in past tournaments.

At a meeting of Birmingham coaches recently, he admitted that some surprising results can be achieved by this means of defensive play. He cited the example of little Chile, who, with all due respects, are not a world power in soccer. Yet Hungary, who according to reports have made steady progress in the past two years, received a rude shock from the hands of the World Cup hosts.

Playing their noted attractive soccer, they were stunned to find themselves at the end of a thrashing from little Chile. Winterbottom said that Chile had apparently defended with staunch resistance. Hungary were unable to break and instead trailed 3-0 at the break. Downhearted by their inability to break through an impregnable looking Chile defence, they eventually lost 5-1.

Determined not to suffer the same humiliation, Hungary themselves adopted the defensive line-up. Some critics quoted them as playing 1-9-1! Hungary had no complaints. They achieved what they set out to do with the result that the second match against Chile ended in a goal-less draw.

There is no doubt that Chile will attempt the same tricks in the World Cup. Winterbottom disclosed: "Everyone is geared up to play this type of game, whereby they do not allow anyone to have any advantage in attack. In Chile, for instance, they have completely re-educated their international group of players in the art of defensive covering."

Meanwhile, Lorenzo, the Argentina coach, who is an old friend of Winterbottom's goes even further. With such a wealth of talent at his disposal, he has reached the conclusion whereby he does not even consider a player, who may be a brilliant ball artist, if he has none of the defensive requirements.

He argues: "The responsibility rests upon my shoulders. Any decision I make will determine the success or failure of my side. I do not want to carry the responsibility for anyone else's mistakes."

One match Winterbottom saw while on tour resulted in only four attempts to score throughout the whole match. Yet, surprising as it may seem, Winterbottom and all the spectators found the match most interesting. Could this be one of the reasons for his part conviction to the defensive style?

Other items from his tour which impressed him were techniques such as the outside of the foot tackle, slinging passes the like of which used to predominate the play of former Newcastle star, Jackie Milburn, in his playing days.

Continued on page 36

Walter Winterbottom, the England Coach, talks to two of the newer caps in the team for Chile, Stan Anderson (left) and Roger Hunt. Both played for English Second Division clubs last season—Anderson for Sunderland, Hunt for Liverpool. (Central 1.)

Swiss qualifiers for the World Cup owed much to the displays of players like Charles Antenen (centre) shown in an action taken from an international against Italy. (Planet 1.)

Karl Rappan is rival

Continued from page 9

pating countries, e.g. if one average Swiss team plays another average Swiss team it certainly does not learn much. On the other hand, if the same team has the opportunity of meeting, let us say a Spanish, German or Swedish team, it is bound to broaden its scope. I firmly believe that English clubs could similarly benefit from this international competition."

OUTSTANDING TEAM, OUTSTANDING PLAYERS. "It is rather difficult to say who are my favourite players in world soccer. Di Stefano on his day was a very great footballer, because he was a complete player who could do everything and who was invaluable to his team. Puskas also was excellent.

"Of all the teams I have seen the Hungarian side of 1953/54 definitely made the greatest impression on me."

SOCCER. "Football is one of the few possibilities we have of inspiring young people to work in a community (a team) for a common idea or a common ideal. I regret that football has become so obsessed with money, that the materialistic aspect has become all-important. In my opinion the main function of top-class football is not entertainment for the masses but publicity for the sport. It should induce young people to take up the sport. I consider it the greatest success of my career that in Switzerland we have achieved to create a new enthusiasm for the game and that thus we have won thousands of youngsters for our sport."

SUMMING UP THE WORLD CUP PROSPECTS — with ERIC BATTY

Continued from page 29

Gorocs, Albert, Tichy, Fenyvesi.

Argentina: Roma; Simeone, Vidal; Guidi, Romas-Delgrado, Sacchi; Corvatta, Rossi (O.), Sosa, Sanfillipo, Boggio.

To sum up then I expect to see the following in the quarter-finals—Russia, Uruguay, West Germany, Chile, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, England and Hungary, though as runners-up in each group, Yugoslavia, Italy, Spain and Argentina should not be forgotten entirely. In the first stages, goal average will be introduced only to separate the two top teams in each group and bearing this in mind it is possible that Hungary, for example, could push England into second place, and maybe throw them straight to the wolves in the shape of Pele & Co.!

Balance

So much lies in the balance during the first stages, that if one of the top teams has to play a preliminary round game without one or two of their best players they could be forced into a quarter-final with another of the much fancied teams by failing to take first place in their group. Brazil could meet England in the quarter-final or Russia be thrown against West Germany, but in attempting to pick out the likely finalists one must suppose complete freedom from injuries. Looking beyond the quarter-finals brings all kinds of complications, yet while I am not prepared to stick my neck out and nominate the last four, it is my opinion that there can be only one winner.

Who will oppose Brazil in the final is a matter of guesswork. Take your own fancy from Russia, West Germany, Czechoslovakia or England. Brazil are way out in front on their own for no other team can call upon an array of forward talent to compare with Pele, Didi, Garrincha, Coutinho, Pepe, Vava, Julinho, Quarentinha, Dorval and Mengalvio. Behind them, a veritable dynamo and a world class player to boot, is Zito. Add to all this the reasonable assumption that the defence will be as sound as that which was built four years ago and conceded not even one goal before the semi-final, and there can be only one conclusion.

Red-hot certainties do, from time to time, blow up. Brazil, as the clear and logical selection as World Cup champions of 1962, could do just that. Their side is so richly talented, so splendidly balanced, and ideally equipped that one might be excused of being suspicious. After all, it is the underdog who often makes the most of the fact that nobody rates his chances as being anything more than slender. The pressure on a team whom nobody in their right minds will ignore in the final stakes can do strange things. Brazil look so much of a "good thing", and are such clear favourites that nothing but triumph will satisfy their followers. There's many a slip ... and even the greatest side in the world game today can make a slip in the fever-heat of this all-important contest. Just one slip could cost the strongest favourites of all time their chance of success this year.

Destination

If you are a Brazilian, of course, there is no doubt about the destination of the Jules Rimet Trophy.

But if, like me, you are an Englishman, you might think back to last season's glittering successes, and think again of the potential of Greaves and Hitchens, whose consistent striking power can prove vital. England have been written off as being over the top.

If you are an Austrian, you must be regretting the fact that one of Europe's finest post-war sides did not even consider themselves good enough to enter this year.

If you are a Mexican, I suggest you keep quiet about it.

If you have any faith in logic then Brazil must still remain the biggest certainty for the 1962 footballing honours list.

Of course we must wait and see what happens.

ENGLAND MOVE OFF TO CHILE

English Review by STUART SHAW

OFF to Chile have gone the England party in pursuit of World Cup glory, having left with the blessings of all—well, nearly all.

Chief cause of discontentment revolves around the centre-forward position. Gerry Hitchens has, mercifully, been released by his Italian masters and joins the virtually untried Alan Peacock of Middlesbrough at the expense of Johnny Byrne and Bobby Smith.

Smith has been the victim of circumstance. Peacock was selected against Austria and only injury prevented him from playing. Smith came in for the Scottish game but the selectors could scarcely go back on their own opinion.

Peacock's quick recovery was remarkable and even though he lacks almost any international experience, he has preference over Messrs. Byrne, Smith and Ipswich Town leader Ray Crawford.

Fortunately Bobby Robson has been recalled and it is hoped that the team that did so well a year ago will again run into top gear in Chile. The defence is still the more reliable part of the team but there is potential in attack. England might do well but they could play badly.

On the League front, Ipswich walked off with the championship and now face a stiff programme in the European Cup next term. Somewhat harshly they have been described as the poorest side to have won the First Division. A workmanlike team with no outstanding players, Ipswich have played simple, straightforward football and left Crawford and Ted Phillips to score the goals. These two missed only three championship matches between them and scored two-thirds of the total number of Ipswich goals. While others failed Ipswich remained consistent—the rest is history. Everyone underrated them.

Meanwhile Burnley failed in their bid for the "double" finishing second to Spurs in the Cup at Wembley, too.

Tottenham held the trophy in a 3-1 win, in one of the best finals for some years. They confirmed popular opinion that they were the best two sides of the 'sixties in the country.

Down from Division One go Chelsea, who ended Burnley's championship hopes at Turf Moor, and Cardiff City. Next year Liverpool and Leyton Orient replace them. Liverpool's "support" at Anfield will be welcomed in the top bracket.

Orient, the Cinderellas of London, snatched the prize of promotion from Sunderland at the last gasp. The Second Division departures, downwards, are Brighton and Bristol Rovers.

Third Division winners Portsmouth were joined by Grimsby Town, who held off a late challenge from Queens Park Rangers. The four clubs who have been languishing at the foot of the division for weeks and weeks all fell at the final hurdle: Newport County, Lincoln City, Torquay United and Brentford.

After a photo-finish in Division Four, Millwall, Colchester United, Wrexham and Carlisle United escaped from the bowels of the Football League. Doncaster Rovers, Chester and Hartlepools United wait to see whether they will even be allowed to remain in this unexalted position. But they should be safe enough with Oxford United surely taking Accrington Stanley's place at the re-election.

It will be an interesting meeting for the Football League on June 2 in view of the results of the survey on the "missing millions". But the general view seems to be that the assembly will mark time and reflect on the further drop of half a million spectators which can however be explained away by the lengthy winter, failure of the better supported teams to do well, etc. Though naturally the falling off of interest has not been halted.

Gates were up on last year until Christmas when the severe weather set in. Another big drop came towards the end of the term when only those clubs interested in promotion and relegation kept their support.

What is the answer? I think the Greeks have it with three points for a win, two for a draw and one for a defeat. I can see the programme notes now: "We lost 7-0 but came back with a well deserved point!"

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FOCUS ON SCOTTISH CHAMPIONS DUNDEE by JOHN STONE

BY the time this is read, the third New York International Soccer League tournament—a competition which has acted as a magnet to clubs from a dozen different countries—will be about to begin. The majority of the participants, indeed, possibly all of them, being new to the tournament, finding a favourite in either of the two groups is no simple task. There is a quiet confidence in Scotland, however, that her representative, Dundee F.C., will, as the saying has it, make them all go a bit.

Sound is the reasoning behind this confidence, too, for the Dens Park club, although not perhaps one of Scotland's most famous, are nevertheless Scotland's League Champions—an honour they won this season for the first time in their history. And such is the undoubted ability in their ranks that America, this summer, could well open for them a door to even greater soccer things.

Whether or not the Scottish champions succeed in their section, Mr. Bill Cox, the tournament organiser, can be sure that the Scots will, by their very presence, bring to the occasion a touch of soccer dignity, a genuine sincerity to play football for the American audiences as it was meant to be played.

That, to readers, may seem a strange choice of words, but then Dundee, in this day and age, could well be described as a strange, or at least as an unusual club.

By the half-way stage in their Scottish League programme, they had built for themselves a lead so commanding that no one would have had any real complaint had the flag been parcelled and despatched to Dens Park there and then.

No one, that is, but the Dundee officials. In mid-December, I, in company with almost every other sporting journalist in Scotland, had accepted that Dundee, famed for its fine footballing traditions but also for a distinct lack of success in the major Scottish tournaments, were about to win their first championship.

Bob Shankly, the Dundee manager, a brother of the successful Willie, of Liverpool, and a former player of no mean skill himself, was not nearly so outspoken. Repeatedly he told us, with a modesty unusual in present-day football, that things could well go wrong between them and the time the winning post was reached; there was a long way still to go, he kept impressing on us.

As we should have known, Mr. Shankly was right. From eight points clear of the field, his team was gradually pulled in until, by the second Saturday in March, they found themselves *trailing* three points behind Rangers.

The complete form-loss was inexplicable, yet, as others around them panicked over the slump, writing off the Dens Park challenge there and then, Dundee themselves, although obviously puzzled by it all, carried on with the "football at all times" policy selected by Mr. Shankly as the correct one.

He genuinely believed that all would come well in the end; that the players he had moulded into a side which, only a few months earlier had rocked the Scottish football world by going to Ibrox and thrashing Rangers by 5-0, would again find this excellent form.

GORDON SMITH (Scotland)

He was right, too, for just as they themselves had been pulled back by Rangers, so Dundee set about, and succeeded, in reducing the Glasgow club's lead.

Going into the season's last week they were neck and neck on points, with Rangers holding all the high cards if goal average was eventually to decide. There was no need of computers on the final day of reckoning, however, for it was Dundee, and not the experienced, hardened men of Ibrox, who took maximum points from their two final games. With Rangers failing miserably in their great hour of need—admittedly, their season had been more strenuous than any other club's in Britain—managing, as they did, to take only one point out of a possible four, the bonnets of bonnie Dundee were hoisted in celebration of a championship success by the astonishingly clear margin of three points.

Certainly the Angus "enigmas" had made it difficult for themselves in many ways, indeed, at times one almost got the impression that they were trying to talk themselves out of their first-ever League flag, but they proved by the very ferocity with which they came again, after having been headed halfway up the home stretch by the always formidable Rangers, that they have a willpower few of us realised was there—as well, of course, as a great deal of ability.

I said earlier that Dundee are not one of Scotland's better-known sides. I know they will take no offence at that remark either, for apart from two Scottish League Cup triumphs in successive seasons, they have won little else.

Last season they were but tenth in the final placings; the two years before that, fourth each time. Indeed, they returned to top-class football only in 1946-47, after two seasons in Division Two.

It is difficult to pinpoint any particular reason for their sudden emergence to a position of real prominence in the Scottish game, other than perhaps shrewd Shankly management, intelligent team selection and blending, quite fanatical support (the average home gate is only 16,000, but the noise they make is equivalent to a 30,000 gate elsewhere) and, I make no apologies for repeating it, much ability.

These "Dark Blues", as they, like Oxford, have come to be known, although lacking the traditions of Rangers or Celtic, are, nevertheless, a team almost certain to appeal to the Americans, who were so taken by Kilmarnock, Scotland's representatives in the two previous tournaments.

Not that Dundee's style is in any way similar to Kilmarnock's; they have a way of doing things that is so very obviously, and so very rhythmically their own. There is, however, much true Scottish character in the make-up of the team.

Perhaps the most internationally-famous member of the party is outside-right, Gordon Smith, formerly of Hibernian and Hearts, one-time Scotland captain and known and respected wherever he has played as a ball artist supreme.

The "Gay Gordon" is an attraction in himself, and so, too, is the rugged, blond, almost Nordic-looking centre-half, Ian Ure, another Scottish internationalist whose style of play is the very opposite to Smith's—hard, unrelenting, but never boring.

Hamilton, at right-back, was a member of the Scottish side which went through the British Championship programme undefeated this season, and, with Ure and Smith, he forms the nucleus of a fine footballing eleven which has much youth, height and strength to commend it.

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Eusebio of Benfica (left) shoots at the Real Madrid goal during the European Cup Final in Amsterdam which the Portuguese side won 5-3. In doing so they retained the trophy. (P.A.I.)

Britain will have best television coverage of all

KENNETH WOLSTENHOLME reporting . . .

BY the time you read this copy of "World Soccer", I shall be over in Chile as a member of the B.B.C. Television team which is covering the World Cup matches. And one of the highlights of the World Cup is likely to be a challenge match between the B.B.C. and the German radio and television boys. For the Germans are sending over a team of more than twenty . . . and the B.B.C. can beat that by two or three!

No country in Europe will get the television coverage that Britain is getting from the B.B.C. The only coverage, of course, will be on film—if only those satellites had gone up a few years previously!—but the amount of World Cup soccer you will see on your screens will be comparable to what you saw from Switzerland (1954) and Sweden (1958).

All other countries in Europe—except West Germany—are going to be satisfied with the pool film. This will be shot by camera crews of various nationalities and will be silent except for the crowd effects. A sixty-minute package show will then be composed and flown to a central point in Europe. Commentators will then sit in their home studios and put on the commentary in their own language as the film goes out.

The B.B.C. will be showing this package show, with the exception that our commentary will be dubbed on to the sound track in Chile. But the B.B.C. is also having its own exclusive coverage.

Many of the exclusive films will be shown —within forty-eight hours of the final whistle—in their entirety. That means ninety minutes' football 7,000 or so miles away in Chile will be transferred to ninety minutes on your screens. Other matches will, of course, be edited to shorter versions. But you can rest assured that the England games will be full versions, and the Final will be shown without any editing at all.

And although you might wish you could see the games through direct television, just remember that no other country will be seeing as much as Britain.

Perhaps the most interesting thing about covering World Cup matches is to try and spot the new individual stars who make their name in these competitions. Last time in Sweden it was Pele, Garrincha and Fontaine. This time it will be . . . who knows?

Then it is interesting to study each country's different tactics. The Brazilians, for instance, never regard themselves as having a team plus eleven reserves. They regard themselves as having twenty-two internationals, and you can expect them to make some startling changes during the competition. After all, they took their time about introducing Pele to the 1958 competition.

Switzerland will be showing off their strange defensive system to South America. The Swiss have the two full-backs playing directly behind the centre half-back, who himself is a joint link-man with one of the inside-forwards. So in effect, Switzerland have a system of 1-1-3-1-4.

Uruguay are even more complicated, so complicated in fact that it is really impossible to set down their team on paper and give any idea of who played where.

In the 1954 World Cup, for instance, Jose Santamaria, now with Real Madrid, was nominated as the finest of all the centre half-backs. Yet Santamaria didn't wear No. 5 or even No. 3. He wore the No. 2 shirt.

And that is how the Uruguayans still play —with a 1-4-1-4 system. Troche, their present captain, wears a No. 2 shirt and will, no doubt, be reported as playing at right-back. But he is no more a right-back than Jimmy Greaves. He is the central stopper, and when the teams line up for the kick-off, Troche takes up his position on the penalty spot.

Behind him is the goalkeeper. In front of him is the half-back line of four men. Reading from right to left they are: No. 4, No. 5, No. 3 and No. 6. The inside-left is a solo three-quarter back. Then come the four forwards.

Ah well! It all makes life much more interesting.

Have I any second thoughts on my forecasts published last month? Not really. I am no more despondent about them, no more hopeful.

Czechoslovakia have suffered a blow by the injury which will keep Kucera out of action, but I am quite happy to go along with my runners-up forecast when they have inside-forwards like Scerer and Kvasnak, and they have a find in right-winger Stibranyi. Like the outside-left, Jelinek, he had a splendid game against Uruguay.

WINTERBOTTOM HAS CHILE PROBLEM—*Continued from page 31*

He also stated that he noticed that, like Stanley Matthews, the South American players simply refused to head the ball if they had the time and space in which to play with their feet. With the light balls they are able to manipulate these movements when they bring the ball under control by means of their chest.

Only a few days after Winterbottom's visit, I saw the movement brought into action by Don Howe, West Bromwich Albion's full-back, who had attended the coaches' meeting at the Hawthorns, West Bromwich. Howe, a thoughtful player, charged in to gather the ball and at the last moment stood off and allowed the ball to drop on to his chest where it was smartly brought under control once it had reached the ground. The success was that instead of an aimless ball going forward into West Ham United's defence, Albion built up a dangerous looking attack with outside-right Alec Jackson put into possession.

All such skills are vital to the English game and Winterbottom, for one, is aware that we must never, never, ignore the opposition. Such a head in the sand attitude would only be detrimental to our hopes and ambitions of the future.

That is why Winterbottom was quick to take the opportunity of snapping up six footballs of the type which will be used in the World Cup games while he was in Chile. He relates: "I had heard that Brazil had ordered fifty such balls from the little shop in Chile where they are being made. Little is the operative word. They didn't have more than fifty, but when I went in I asked for six right away.

"When I mentioned this to Lorenzo, he said: 'Yes, I know all about Brazil. We have had 100 in use in our league matches for some time!' "

Both Brazil and Argentina intend to have their players fully accustomed to the "feel" of the special ball in time for the championships. Here in England, the players chosen for the trip have had to use the six balls sparingly in training sessions.

This is, in my opinion, the major difference between the respective standards of play in the different countries. While Latin Americans go all the way, we in the British Isles tend to play with the whole scheme without giving such men as Winterbottom sufficient scope to get on with the job they are paid to complete successfully.

Austrian game has lifted some gloom

End-of-season round-up

by TOM MULDOWNEY

in EIRE REPORT

THE past month has seen much activity on the Irish soccer front. Cup and league championship reached the final stages with Eire's oldest professional club Shelbourne on the threshold of the coveted double. Places in the Top-Four Independent Cup competition decided and the closed shop Inter-City Cup, Dublin-Belfast tourney got underway. With the North dominating the series as they did last term when Linfield won out.

On the representative front, one International and two Inter-league games were played. All three ended in defeats for the wearers of the green.

The visit of the Italian league, drawn from the third and fourth divisions, on St. Patrick's Day, Ireland's national holiday, lured many thousands of shamrock-decked Irish to Dalymount Park. Here was one game that promised an Irish win. So all the sportswriters said. Yes, good reason here for a victory celebration.

The homesters had a double incentive to play well. The return with the Italians was fixed for the lovely resort Rimini. A nice trip here. While the International selectors were out in force seeking new caps for the game with Austria and the locals were under review. No wonder the fans rolled up with great expectations.

Alas for foolish hopes. With so much at stake stage fright hit the home team. They fell to pieces and were outplayed by a mediocre visiting side. Long before closing time the fans choked the exits anxious for opening time to get away and forget the worst match seen at headquarters for many years.

The dismal display by Eire's part-timers came as a shock to those who were crying out for an increase of home talent on the national team. After double defeats from Scotland and Czechoslovakia the cry reached a crescendo. And the fighting show by the league against the English eleven at Bristol was extra ammunition for the home brigade. So much so that a new era of home Internationals seemed assured. The Austria match was the first chance for the much maligned selectors to bow to public demand. But after the Patrick's Day debacle they put away their pencils and scampered to England in search of the old hands.

And what weeping and wailing when the Italians went North to be crushed 6-3 by the Irish league and the last vestige of Southern pride was gone. Not quite. A new-look Eire league side followed the Italians to Belfast and were mauled in muddy Windsor Park to leave no doubt, if there ever was one, that football in Eire is at rock bottom standard.

When the team to meet Austria was announced it was no surprise that cross-channel players had been selected for all positions. The "mixed grill" eleven contained a few discards of yesteryear in Alan Kelly, Tommy Traynor, Pat Saward, Dermot Curtis and Liam Tuohy. While former full-back Noel Cantwell was given the centre-forward trouble spot.

Prior to this game Eire's International future looked bleak. But after ninety minutes' exhilarating, spine-tingling football, what a refreshing change it was, that produced the first Dalymount roar for some time, there was ample evidence that this team was capable of blasting Eire into International orbit a lot quicker than even the most optimistic Irishman had dared to hope. True, they did not win. Show me someone who thought they would, and I will show you a soccer fool. In defeat, no cast was lost. Their play was better than that of many former teams who achieved victory.

Yet victory could have been theirs. Two unexpected strokes of misfortune tilted the scales against them and certainly robbed them of at least a draw.

'Keeper Kelly, Preston North End, recalled for the first time since the Wembley whacking of 1957, was forced off after only twenty minutes with an eye injury, sustained in making a flying fist out from an Austrian forward. During that short spell he gave proof of his claim to be considered Eire's first choice.

Replacement Dinny Lowrey, St. Patrick's Ath., was by no means a failure. Yet his inexperience in the big time was obvious.

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Exclusive form guide to the soccer classic with WORLD CUP RACE

ARGENTINA (Blue and white stripes, black shorts, grey stockings). Trained by Juan Carlos Lorenzo.

Form: Overall International Record: 349 matches, 67.91%. World Cup Record: 15 matches, 66.67%.

Comment: In third place in the overall record but only tenth in the World Cup one. Has run three times before in the race—in the first two, in 1930 and 1934, and in the last one in Sweden in 1958. Best performance was in the first when only beaten by two lengths (4-2) by the winners, Uruguay. The next appearance was a disappointment when, after a walk-over in the qualifying race, Sweden gained a three-two mastery in Bologna, Italy. Qualified for the last race in Sweden by beating Chile and Bolivia after failing at La Paz but showed only indifferent form in the finals—falling far behind West Germany and Czechoslovakia and with only a win over N. Ireland to suggest the long journey was necessary.

BRAZIL (Yellow shirts, blue shorts and white stockings). Trained by Dr. Paulo Machado de Carvalho's Establishment.

Form: Overall International Record: 213 matches, 65.73%. World Cup Record: 29 matches, 74.14%.

Comment: Much the best-looking runner. Only sixth in the overall record and fifth in the World Cup record but deservedly the favourite to repeat her 1958 victory. With Yugoslavia the only runner to have appeared in all six previous races: failed early in 1930 (under pressure from Yugoslavia) and in 1934 (to Spain); third in 1938, second (when favourite on her home track) in 1950, amongst the bunch between fourth and eighth place in 1954, but the clear winner in 1958.

BULGARIA (White shirts, white shorts, white stockings). Trained by Mikhail Donski's Establishment.

Form: Overall International Record: 142 matches, 43.31%. World Cup Record: 14 matches, 46.43%.

Comment: In thirteenth place in the overall ratings and fourteenth in the World Cup. Mikhail Donski is a genuine enthusiast, fine sportsman and has a delightful feeling for expressing himself in English. It needs more than this to win the World Cup. But his main aim and object I fancy will be to train his charges to honour both their country and the game by their endeavour and by their behaviour on the course. This is Bulgaria's fourth World Cup appearance but their first at this stage of the race.

CHILE (Red shirts, blue shorts and white stockings). Trained by Fernando Riera.

Form: Overall International Record: 72 matches, 14.58%. World Cup Record: 14 matches, 28.57%.

Comment: In sixteenth, that is last place, in both the overall and the World Cup ratings. In the latter have played, incidentally, precisely the same number of previous matches as Bulgaria but have made one more appearance. The "home" runner has several advantages in this classic and traditionally does well but this one does not seem to have much chance of getting ahead of any but the back-markers. Yet in a trial canter last year Chile out-stripped West Germany, the form favourite in their group in the early stages, and two more recent gallops against Hungary suggest that Chile are in better form than ever before in their soccer history.

COLOMBIA (Blue shirts, white shorts, blue stockings). Trained by Adolfo Pedernera.

Form: Overall International Record: 13 matches, 30.77%. World Cup Record: 6 matches, 33.33%.

Comment: In fifteenth place, just ahead of Chile, in both overall and World Cup ratings but with few recognised matches to calculate from, the record counts less with this runner than with any other. Whether, after the years spent in the wilderness, Colombia will appear as a mustang or a burro we shall soon see—I fancy the latter. If the race was being run in Colombia this one might have caught the commentator's eye for a furlong or two but, save perhaps to impede the progress of a more fancied runner, is unlikely to make any showing in Chile.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (White shirts, white shorts, red, white and blue stockings). Trained by Rudolf Vytlacil.

Form: Overall International Record: 175 matches, 54.00%. World Cup Record: 29 matches, 65.52%.

Comment: In eleventh place in both overall and World Cup matches, and both reflect the inconsistency of Czechoslovakia. Since their poor showing in the last World Cup race they have improved considerably but two recent runs have been contradictory with a sad lapse in Gothenburg (against Sweden) redeemed a little by a better showing in Prague (against Uruguay). Had to work harder than most to get into the finals at all and have been rather badly drawn in the same quarter as the favourite, Brazil.

ENGLAND (White shirts, dark blue shorts, red stockings). Trained by Walter Winterbottom.

Form: Overall International Record: 341 matches, 68.77%. World Cup Record: 24 matches, 70.83%.

Comment: Second in the overall rankings and that despite the large number of matches played: seventh in the World Cup ranking. The senior runner by about thirty years although only a post-war starter for this particular race. The years have somewhat dimmed the lustre but actual performances have never been so bad as some observers have suggested—or wished perhaps. England are no longer expected to be the masters, no longer failures if they falter once or twice—and may do better because of this. Have not in recent months reached the promising form of a year ago and some parts seem tired and stale, and others untried.

WEST GERMANY (White shirts, black shorts, black stockings). Trained by Sepp Herberger.

Form: Overall International Record: 235 matches, 58.30%. World Cup Record: 30 matches, 76.67%.

Comment: Only eighth in the overall rankings but, mark this, first in the World Cup lists. Never the favourite for this race but nearly always up with the leaders. No one is likely to run more to orders than this one, no

Russia after their recent successes will start as one of the favourites for the 1962 World Cup being held in Chile this month. Seen right is an action shot taken during an international match between Russia and Turkey. (Planet 2.)

GORDON JEFFERY as the Chile stakes race reader

CARD . . .

one is likely to receive shrewder orders. It was correct running tactics correctly followed that won the race in 1954 for West Germany—plus the misfortunes that befell that year's favourite, Hungary. Has been running well over the past two years and should be thereabouts at the finish.

HUNGARY (Red shirts, white shorts, green stockings). Trained by Lajos Baroti.

Form: Overall International Record: 380 matches, 66.05%. World Cup Record: 26 matches, 73.08%.

Comment: In fourth place in the overall rankings and sixth in the World Cup. Has, since 1905, ran in more races than any other starter including England and Argentina. Always good at least, sometimes brilliant but has never won this race. Second in 1938 and in 1954 when the firm favourite to win. Around that time every race was won or deadheated *except* the World Cup final when too many legs were bruised and tired, too many fetlocks fettered, for lasting pace over the long run-in. Fell away a bit a couple of years later but have shown some recent glimpses of a return to classic-form. Not perhaps as consistent, however, as a potential winner should be.

ITALY (Blue shirts, white shorts, black stockings). Trained by Messrs. Mazza and Ferrari.

Form: Overall International Record: 217 matches, 63.13%. World Cup Record: 23 matches, 76.09%.

Comment: Seventh in the overall ranking and third in the World Cup. An outstanding pre-war runner in the race—a non-starter in the first in 1930 and the winner in both 1934 (in Italy) and 1938 (in France). Despite having more than their share of luck have been disappointing in the post-war races. The 1938 victory gave Italy exemption to the finals in 1950 but Sweden soon outstripped them and a two-length win over Paraguay could not make up the lost ground. A couple of jaunts against Egypt were all that was needed to qualify for the 1954 finals in Switzerland but England strolled away for the first of the two "last eight" places and Italy lost to Switzerland in a photo-finish for second place.

MEXICO (Green shirts, white shorts, black stockings). Trained by Ignacio Trelles.

Form: Overall International Record: 48 matches, 56.25%. World Cup Record: 37 matches, 58.11%.

Comment: Tenth in the overall rankings and twelfth in the World Cup but both are flattering since most of the races have been of the Selling Plate variety. Indeed a plater in a classic race is a fair description of Mexico in the World Cup final stages. The race would not seem the same perhaps without this regular campaigner—only Brazil and Yugoslavia have appeared in every race, Mexico shares with Italy and Switzerland the distinction of having only missed once. Mexico are usually prominent for getting in the way of a runner with a brighter prospect and may do the same in the early stages this year to Spain, Czechoslovakia or Brazil.

SPAIN (Red shirts, blue shorts, black stockings). Trainers Miguel Munoz and Helenio Herrera.

Form: Overall International Record: 120 matches, 65.83%. World Cup Record: 24 matches, 67.92%.

Comment: Fifth in the overall record and ninth in the World Cup—and the ninth ranking rests largely upon easy passages to the finals. The record in the World Cup is in fact amongst the poorest of any of the runners. Entered in one pre-war race (1934), qualified in two-horse races against Portugal but in the final failed to join the first eight to the winning post. Qualified in 1950 again in two-horse races against Portugal (but only deadheated one of those) and reached fourth place in the final. Failed (to Turkey in 1954 and to Scotland and Switzerland in 1958) to qualify for the last two races.

SWITZERLAND (Red shirts, white shorts, black and white stockings). Trained by Karl Rappan.

Form: Overall International Record: 271 matches, 37.27%. World Cup Record: 26 matches, 55.77%.

Comment: Fourteenth in the overall rankings, thirteenth in the World Cup. A courageous runner that did well to reach the finals. Plenty of stamina but probably not enough class to be with the leaders towards the end. For a runner from a small stable, however, has a remarkably fine World Cup record. Did not enter for the first race but reached the final stages of the next four—the last (1958) was the only occasion when Switzerland failed to qualify.

URUGUAY (Light blue shirts, black shorts, black stockings). Trained by Juan Carlos Corazzo.

Form: Overall International Record: 207 matches, 48.07%. World Cup Record: 19 matches, 76.32%.

Comment: Most of the races in the overall record have been run against Argentina and Brazil with Uruguay usually coming up in the rear—this accounts for the poor overall ranking of twelfth. It is a different story in the World Cup with only a difference of 0.35% putting Uruguay in second place behind West Germany. Won the first race in 1930—admittedly in a small field, and the fourth and much more keenly contested one in 1950. Fourth in 1954 but failed to qualify in 1958. Both victories came—significantly—when the race was run in South America.

U.S.S.R. (Red shirts, white shorts and red stockings). Trained by Gavril Kachalin and Nikolai Gulvayev.

Form: Overall International Record: 53 matches, 76.42%. World Cup Record: 14 matches, 75.00%.

Comment: In first place in the overall rankings and in fourth place in the World Cup—and such rankings cannot be ignored. Ran in only a handful of pre-war races on outlandish tracks in far-away places but did not compete in high-class International fields until the last decade. Was highly trained and in peak condition before venturing into public view and has always done credit to those responsible for the careful preparation. Has already an imposing "classics" record—amongst the first sixteen bunch in the 1952 Olympics on her first appearance and the winner four years later.

YUGOSLAVIA (Blue shirts, white shorts and red stockings). Trained by Ljubomir Lovric.

Form: Overall International Record: 164 matches, 57.62%. World Cup Record: 34 matches, 69.12%.

Comment: Only moderate rankings of ninth overall and eighth World Cup but will go to the starting gate as something of a dark horse that might cause an upset or two. Has never missed a World Cup race but, except for the 1930 when third place was shared with the U.S.A., has never got ahead of the fifth-eighth bunch. That was Yugoslavia's placing in both the last two races—improvements on 1950 when she failed to reach the first eight and in 1934 and 1938 when she failed in the qualifying stages. Has done much better with generally the same animal in the post-war Olympics—the minor soccer classic these days.

WORLD CUP FIXTURES FOR MAY-JUNE

MAY

30—*Group 1* (at Arica), Uruguay v. Colombia; *Group 2* (Santiago), Chile v. Switzerland; *Group 3* (Vina del Mar), Brazil v. Mexico; *Group 4* (Rancagua), Argentina v. Bulgaria.

31—*Group 1*, Russia v. Yugoslavia; *Group 2*, West Germany v. Italy; *Group 3*, Spain v. Czechoslovakia; *Group 4*, Hungary v. England.

JUNE

2—*Group 1*, Uruguay v. Yugoslavia; *Group 2*, Chile v. Italy; *Group 3*, Brazil v. Czechoslovakia; *Group 4*, Argentina v. England.

3.—*Group 1*, Colombia v. Russia; *Group 2*, Switzerland v. West Germany; *Group 3*, Mexico v. Spain; *Group 4*, Bulgaria v. Hungary.

6.—*Group 1*, Uruguay v. Russia; *Group 2*, Chile v. West Germany; *Group 3*, Brazil v. Spain; *Group 4*, Argentina v. Hungary.

7—*Group 1*, Colombia v. Yugoslavia; *Group 2*, Switzerland v. Italy; *Group 3*, Mexico v. Czechoslovakia; *Group 4*, Bulgaria v. England.

10—World Cup Quarter-Finals.

13—World Cup Semi-Finals.

16—World Cup play-off for third place.

17—WORLD CUP FINAL.

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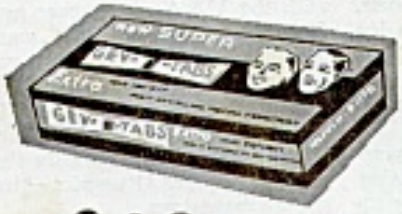

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